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Missoula Marathon Participant Study: 2012

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2012 Missoula Marathon Participant Study

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Case Study Report 2012-1

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to provide organizers of the Missoula Marathon with an understanding of their 2012 race participants and the money they spent in Missoula. Results are comparable to two previous studies done on the marathon in 2007 and 2010. The methodology and questions asked were identical. These previous reports can be found at: http://www.itrr.umt.edu/reports_casestudies.html

Methods

E-mail addresses were available for the majority but not all of participants making a web-based survey a viable option for this study. The population of interest for this study was registered 2012 Missoula Marathon participants. Of the 3,600 individuals who were contacted for the survey, 1,192 were from Missoula County, 986 were from another Montana county, and 1,421 were from out-of state or country.

E-mail addresses of 3,600 participants were obtained from the race organizers. An e-mail was sent to the race participants the week following the race. The email explained the purpose of the study and gave the participants a link to the web survey. Reminder e-mails were sent to the participants one week later.

The survey consisted of 33 questions, however, not all questions applied to all respondents. The questions asked were dependent on the respondents' residence. All respondents were asked questions regarding their satisfaction with the event and demographic questions, like household income. Missoula County residents were not asked about their trip characteristics and were not asked expenditure information. Residents of other counties, states, and countries were asked about their trip characteristics and their expenditures in the area.

Limitations

This survey was sent to participants with e-mail addresses. It is assumed that these participants represent all participants of the Missoula Marathon.

Results

The place of residence of the population of runners is an important figure for calculating expenditures and impacts. The residences of the population broke down as follows: 1,519 participants were from Missoula County; 1,297 participants were from Montana but another county; 1,806 participants were from another state or country. These figures will be used to calculate expenditures and impacts.

The survey link was e-mailed to the 3,600 marathon participants with email addresses. 184 surveys were returned as undeliverable making a total of 3,416 possible respondents. A 49 percent response rate was obtained (1,681 completed surveys). Of these, 593 were from Missoula County, 388 were from other Montana counties and 693 were from other states or countries. A total of 1,128 females (68%) and 535 males (32%) with a mean age of 48.07 completed the survey.

Of the out-of-state respondents, 186 were from Washington, 46 from California, 53 from Idaho, 31 from Oregon, 30 from Texas, 22 from Colorado, and 21 were from Arizona. International respondents included 27 from Canada, 1 from China, 1 from Italy, and 1 from Germany.

Trip Characteristics

Trip characteristics were asked of out-of-county participants. For respondents from other Montana counties, the mean number of nights away from home was 1.43, and the mean number of nights spent in Missoula was 1.42. The mean group size was 3.60. For participants from out-of-state or country, the mean number of nights away from home was 4.50. The mean number of nights spent in Montana was 3.96, and the mean number of nights spent in Missoula was 2.68. The mean group size was 3.53.

Expenditures

Expenditure information was asked of participants who reside outside Missoula County. The survey asked that they report their best estimate of the total amount of money they and their family (if applicable) spent in Missoula County in the following categories: accommodations, food, transportation, retail/services, gratuity, and entertainment/recreation. Extreme values, or outliers, were brought down to the 95th percentile to ensure that these values did not skew the mean. Mean expenditures for both out-of-county and out-of-state/country for each category can be found in Table 1 along with the percentage of people who indicated they spent \$0 in that category. The mean total expenditure spent in Missoula for out-of-county respondents was \$273.29 and the mean total expenditure for out-of- state/country respondents was \$469.83. Direct expenditures for all out-of-county respondents totaled \$354,457.13 while out-of-state/country respondents spent \$848,512.98. Total direct expenditures in Missoula of Missoula Marathon runners were \$1,202,970.11.

Table 1- Expenditure Data: Total Money Spent in Missoula County

Expenditure Category	<u>Out-of-County</u> Mean Expenditure	<u>Out-of-County</u> % who did not spend money in each category	<u>Out-of-State</u> Mean Expenditure	<u>Out-of-State</u> % who did not spend money in each category
Motel/Hotel/B&B	\$79.18	50%	\$137.71	47%
Campground	\$1.94	97%	\$5.19	94%
Restaurant/Bar	\$71.04	25%	\$123.65	22%
Groceries/Snacks	\$15.98	60%	\$31.44	46%
Gasoline	\$47.88	31%	\$46.13	34%
Local transportation	\$0.29	99%	\$1.00	96%
Auto rental	\$0.32	99%	\$33.17	86%
Retail goods	\$46.26	59%	\$55.98	54%
Gratuity	\$6.12	75%	\$12.48	66%
Entertainment/Recreation	\$4.29	91%	\$23.10	76%
Total Trip Expenditure	\$273.29	-	\$469.83	-
TOTAL Contribution	\$354,457.13	-	\$848,512.98	

Results by Residence

Further results are provided by analyzing all respondents, respondents from Missoula County, the rest of Montana, and out-of-state respondents. Appendix A shows the results of all respondents (sample size of 1,681). Appendix B shows the results for Missoula County residents (sample size of 593). Appendix C shows the results for Montana residents who are from other counties (sample size of 388), and Appendix D shows results for out-of-state respondents (sample size of 693).

Results of Open Ended Response Questions

Three open-ended questions were asked of respondents. The answers to these can be found in Appendix E and represent all respondents together for each question. The survey instrument can be viewed at: www.itrr.umt.edu/websurvey/MissoulaMarathon

Appendix A- All Respondents Results

**Missoula County residents (n=593) only answered questions 4-10

1. Was attending or participating in the marathon your primary reason for being in the area?

82.9% Yes

17.1% No

2. For what other reasons were you visiting the area?

Other reasons for visiting Missoula	Percent
Visit friends/relatives	71.7%
Vacation/recreation/pleasure	59.2%
Business/convention/meeting	8.2%
Shopping	2.7%
Just passing through	1.6%

3. During the marathon, in what type of accommodations did you stay?

Accommodation Type	Percent
Hotel/motel/bed & breakfast	69.1%
Home of friend/relative	26.9%
Private campground	4.5%
Rented cabin/home	2.1%
Public land camping	1.4%
Second home/condo/cabin	0.6%
Vehicle in parking lot	0.5%
Resort/condominium	0.4%
Guest ranch	0.2%

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Self	25.0%
Friends	19.8%
Immediate family	16.8%
Couple	14.9%
Family & friends	14.9%
Extended family	4.5%
Organized group/club	3.8%
Business associates	0.4%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	21.9%	6	3.5%
2	29.6%	7	1.9%
3	13.3%	8	2.2%
4	12.4%	9	1.2%
5	7.1%	10 or more	5.4%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	6.6%
6-10 years	6.1%
11-17 years	7.9%
18-24 years	14.3%
25-34 years	40.1%
35-44 years	39.4%
45-54 years	33.8%
55-64 years	26.3%
65-74 years	10.3%
75 and over	1.9%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	6.2%
\$20,000 to 39,999	12.0%
\$40,000 to 59,999	16.6%
\$60,000 to 79,999	14.7%
\$80,000 to 99,999	14.6%
\$100,000 to 149,999	20.0%
\$150,000 to 199,999	7.7%
\$200,000 and over	8.2%

8. What is your sex?

32.2% *Male*

67.8% *Female*

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	0.1%
1-7 days before the marathon	2.0%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	5.8%
1-6 months before the marathon	56.8%
over 6 months before the marathon	35.4%

10. How did you hear about the 2012 Missoula Marathon? (check all that apply)

How heard about Marathon	Percent
Word of mouth	38.5%
I ran the race before	38.2%
Internet	17.4%
Other ** (see below)	8.0%
Group or club	8.3%
Newspaper	4.6%
Magazine	7.8%
Posters	4.5%
Television	2.4%
Radio	1.9%
Flyer	1.1%
Retail outlet	1.4%
E-mail from marathon planners	3.3%
Direct mail	0.2%

Other

1/2 marathon magazine
50 States Club
A co-worker ran it in 2011
Advertisement from previous race, Coeur d Alene I think
and i ran the 1/2 a few yrs ago
At Seattle Marathon Expo
Aunt
BIG SKY BREWERY
Bozeman Marathon
brother ran in 2011
Co workers that have run the race before and ran it again this year
Co-worker
co-workers
Daughter ran in it 2011
Enjoyed watching the runners run by my parents house
Everyone knows about the Msla Marathon
facebook
Facebook
family
Family
family & friends
family member
Family member
family member that is part of Run Wild Missoula
family members that have run the race before
Family ran it last year
Family runners
Family who live here and ran last year
family who participated in the marathon last yr
friend
Friend
Friend from Montana
Friend ran before
Friend ran it
Friend who ran it before
friends
Friends
Friends and family have ran before
Friends ran it previously.
From a friend originally from Montana.
From friends
Girlfriend
googled walker friendly marathon in July
Half Marathon last year
halfmarathons.net
Halfmarathons.net
Helena Vigilante Running Club
Houston Maraton Expo
I am on the marathon organizing committee
I live in Missoula so know about the race
I ran the half last year
I ran the Missoula half last year
I was in Missoula last year on packet pick up day and decided to do it the following year.
I work with race organizers and participate on the marathon committee
Jeff Galloway email
last year family ran
list of top US marathons found in web search
live here
Living in Missoula
marathon guide
marathon guide.com
Marathon list
Marathon Maniac race calendar
Marathon Maniacs
marathonguide
marathonguide.com
Marathonguide.com
Marathonmaniacs, 50 state club
mr. google.com
My Cousin Ran it the year before
my daughter ran it last year
My daughter ran the race 2 years ago and challenged me to do it with her on Christmas Day.
My daughter suggested we do it as a family.

My daughter was training to run
my friend
My friend chose it for her marathon, and I got more info from the website.
My friend I went with told me I was going
my friend who had been in last year's half marathon
My husband ran it last year and we watched the year before
My son runs the full marathon.
My uncle is a marathoner and I just moved away from Missoula and knew about it
National Guard Team
orthopedic doctor asked if I was going to participate
Other runner
our house is on the route
Peak trainer
person who lives in Missoula
Previous Participant / Friends
Race Rag
Raised in western MT, familiar with Missoula events
ran the half marathon 2 x before
Read something when in town previously visiting my uncle
relative told us about it
RIVER BANK RUN
RRCA silent auction
Run 4 Kids
Run 4 Kids Youth Homes
Run wild
run wild missoula
run wild Missoula
Run Wild Missoula
Run4Kids team
Runner's World
Runner's World Magazine
runners edge/run wild website
Runners World
Runners world website
RWM
searched for races in area
sister
Sister
Sister who runs alot of marathons.
Son
specifically searched for races in MT for the dates I would be here
UM grad
VIRTUAL RACE BAG FROM ANOTHER EVENT
volunteered for race past two years
Volunteered for the race last year
Voulenteered as a saftety rider for the past two years
We live + run in Missoula!
Went to UM and wanted to return
When knew was coming to Missoula for business, checked the web for any local races
wife ran the past 5 races
Wife ran the race twice before
work associates
www.marathonguide.com
YMCA
Youth Homes

11. Please rate your satisfaction with the 2012 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	86.4%	12.4%	0.7%	0.2%	0.4%
Event staff	88.8%	10.0%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%
Cost of the race	51.9%	29.4%	12.1%	5.2%	1.1%
Location of the race	85.5%	12.8%	1.0%	0.3%	0.3%
Concessions available	60.3%	23.4%	10.6%	2.6%	0.5%
Number of people at the race	71.9%	23.6%	3.7%	0.2%	0.3%
Types of people at the race	75.3%	19.4%	3.7%	0.2%	0.4%
Parking	54.4%	23.2%	10.5%	2.9%	0.4%
Sound system	53.4%	26.5%	13.6%	4.7%	0.7%
Variety of activities	56.8%	27.8%	11.4%	0.9%	0.2%
Cleanliness	80.0%	18.3%	1.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Availability of restrooms	68.8%	21.9%	5.1%	3.3%	0.7%
Signage/directions	74.0%	21.9%	2.9%	0.7%	0.3%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

Never 5.0%
Next year 67.9%
Within 5 years 27.1%

Appendix B- Missoula County Results

n= 593

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Self	36.4%
Friends	20.9%
Family & friends	12.6%
Immediate family	10.2%
Couple	9.2%
Organized group/club	7.8%
Extended family	2.4%
Business associates	.5%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	34.4%	6	1.6%
2	26.8%	7	1.2%
3	11.1%	8	0.7%
4	10.1%	9	0.5%
5	3.4%	10 or more	9.2%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	1.5%
6-10 years	1.7%
11-17 years	4.1%
18-24years	16.9%
25-34years	42.4%
35-44years	36.8%
45-54years	30.3%
55-64years	24.4%
65-74years	9.1%
75 and over	2.4%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	8.1%
\$20,000 to 39,999	20.1%
\$40,000 to 59,999	22.3%
\$60,000 to 79,999	14.2%
\$80,000 to 99,999	11.6%
\$100,000 to 149,999	15.5%
\$150,000 to 199,999	3.5%
\$200,000 and over	4.6%

8. What is your sex?

Male: 25.5% Female: 74.5%

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	0%
1-7 days before the marathon	1.2%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	5.2%
1-6 months before the marathon	51.3%
over 6 months before the marathon	42.3%

10. How did you hear about the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How heard about Marathon	Percent
Word of mouth	35.4%
I ran the race before	54.7%
Group or club	12.9%
Newspaper	8.9%
Other (see below for details)**	7.5%
Internet	7.2%
E-mail from marathon planners	5.1%
Posters	4.9%
Radio	3.9%
Television	3.7%
Retail outlet	2.7%
Flyer	1.9%
Magazine	1.5%
Direct mail	0.7%

**Other responses included: a coworker ran in 2011 (3), brother ran in 2011, facebook (2), from friends (5), on marathon committee, cousin ran it, daughter ran it, husband ran it, house is on the route, Run Wild Missoula (4), Run 4 Kids (3), River Bank Run, volunteered in the past (3), YMCA, youth homes.

11. Please rate your satisfaction with the 2012 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	84.6%	13.9%	0.8%	0.2%	0.5%
Event staff	89.3%	9.4%	1.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Cost of the race	42.6%	32.3%	16.6%	6.4%	1.7%
Location of the race	84.9%	12.8%	1.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Concessions available	60.4%	22.8%	11.0%	2.0%	3.4%
Number of people at the race	71.1%	23.3%	4.1%	0.5%	0.5%
Types of people at the race	76.1%	17.5%	3.9%	0.3%	0.7%
Parking	53.1%	25.2%	11.7%	2.4%	0.5%
Sound system	51.4%	26.8%	14.3%	5.3%	0.8%
Variety of activities	61.0%	23.7%	12.4%	0.2%	0.3%
Cleanliness	81.0%	16.8%	1.4%	0.5%	0.3%
Availability of restrooms	67.2%	21.2%	5.3%	5.1%	0.7%
Signage/directions	77.4%	18.7%	2.7%	0.5%	0.5%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

1.0% *Never*
86.1% *Next year*
12.9% *Within 5 years*

Appendix C- Montana Out-of-County Results

(n=388)

1. Was attending or participating in the marathon your primary reason for being in the area?

91.4% Yes

8.6% No

2. For what other reasons were you visiting the area?

Other reasons for visiting Missoula	Percent
Visit friends/relatives	73.3%
Vacation/recreation/pleasure	46.7%
Shopping	10.0%
Business/convention/meeting	3.3%
Just passing through	3.3%

3. During the marathon, in what type of accommodations did you stay?

Accommodation Type	Percent
Hotel/motel/bed & breakfast	66.4%
Home of friend/relative	32.4%
Private campground	2.1%
Rented cabin/home	0.6%
Vehicle in parking lot	0.6%
Second home/condo/cabin	1.0%
Public land camping	1.2%
Resort/condominium	0.3%

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Friends	25.3%
Immediate family	21.4%
Self	20.1%
Family & friends	14.2%
Couple	12.7%
Extended family	5.0%
Business associates	0.0%
Organized group/club	1.3%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	15.1%	6	4.3%
2	28.3%	7	3.8%
3	14.3%	8	3.2%
4	14.8%	9	.5%
5	11.3%	10 or more	3.8%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	12.5%
6-10 years	8.6%
11-17 years	10.9%
18-24years	17.2%
25-34years	45.6%
35-44years	37.0%
45-54years	31.8%
55-64years	25.0%
65-74years	8.3%
75 and over	0.3%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	7.4%
\$20,000 to 39,999	11.8%
\$40,000 to 59,999	17.8%
\$60,000 to 79,999	17.0%
\$80,000 to 99,999	16.4%
\$100,000 to 149,999	19.2%
\$150,000 to 199,999	6.6%
\$200,000 and over	3.8%

8. What is your sex?

26.9% *Male*

73.1% *Female*

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	.3%
1-7 days before the marathon	3.9%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	5.2%
1-6 months before the marathon	59.8%
over 6 months before the marathon	30.8%

10. How did you hear about the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How heard about Marathon	Percent
Word of mouth	44.8%
I ran the race before	40.9%
Internet	12.0%
Other** (see below)	
Group or club	5.7%
Newspaper	4.4%
Magazine	4.4%
Posters	1.8%
Television	4.2%
Radio	2.1%
Flyer	1.0%
Retail outlet	1.6%
E-mail from marathon planners	4.2%
Direct mail	-----

**and i ran the 1/2 a few yrs ago

Bozeman Marathon

co-workers

family

family member

family member that is part of Run Wild Missoula

Family ran it last year

family who participated in the marathon last yr

friend

Friend

Friend ran before

Friend ran it

Friends and family have ran before

Helena Vigilante Running Club

I am on the marathon organizing committee

I ran the half last year

I ran the Missoula half last year

live here

mr. google.com

my friend who had been in last year's half marathon

My uncle is a marathoner and I just moved away from Missoula and knew about it

relative told us about it

Wife ran the race twice before

11. Please rate your satisfaction with the 2012 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	88.1%	11.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Event staff	87.7%	11.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Cost of the race	45.5%	31.9%	14.8%	6.5%	1.0%
Location of the race	83.3%	15.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.0%
Concessions available	61.1%	21.7%	12.0%	2.9%	0.0%
Number of people at the race	72.6%	22.7%	4.4%	0.3%	0.0%
Types of people at the race	76.0%	19.3%	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Parking	53.4%	26.0%	12.2%	4.2%	0.3%
Sound system	54.3%	27.3%	12.7%	4.7%	0.5%
Variety of activities	54.4%	31.0%	10.4%	1.3%	0.0%
Cleanliness	78.4%	20.6%	0.8%	0.3%	0.0%
Availability of restrooms	65.9%	27.0%	3.7%	2.6%	0.5%
Signage/directions	72.2%	24.4%	2.6%	0.3%	0.0%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

1.6% *Never*

79.9% *Next year*

18.5% *Within 5 years*

Appendix D- Out-of-State/Country Results

(n=693)

1. Was attending or participating in the marathon your primary reason for being in the area?

78.1% Yes

21.9% No

2. For what other reasons were you visiting the area?

Other reasons for visiting Missoula	Percent
Visit friends/relatives	71.9%
Vacation/recreation/pleasure	61.4%
Business/convention/meeting	9.2%
Shopping	1.3%
Just passing through	1.3%

3. During the marathon, in what type of accommodations did you stay?

Accommodation Type	Percent
Hotel/motel/bed & breakfast	70.2%
Home of friend/relative	24.4%
Private campground	5.7%
Rented cabin/home	2.8%
Public land camping	1.5%
Resort/condominium	0.6%
Vehicle in parking lot	0.4%
Second home/condo/cabin	0.4%
Guest ranch	0.3%

4. What option best describes the group with whom you attended/participated in the marathon?

Group Type	Percent
Immediate family	19.9%
Couple	21.1%
Self	18.0%
Friends	15.7%
Family & friends	17.3%
Extended family	6.0%
Business associates	0.4%
Organized group/club	1.6%

5. Including you, how many people were in your group?

Group size	Percent	Group size	Percent
1	15.1%	6	4.6%
2	32.8%	7	1.5%
3	14.7%	8	2.8%
4	13.1%	9	2.2%
5	7.9%	10 or more	3.2%

6. Please indicate what age groups are represented in your group?

Age group	Percent
0-5 years	7.7%
6-10 years	8.6%
11-17 years	9.3%
18-24years	10.5%
25-34years	35.0%
35-44years	43.0%
45-54years	37.6%
55-64years	28.6%
65-74years	12.5%
75 and over	2.5%

7. What best describes your annual household income in US dollars?

Income	Percent
Less than \$20,000	3.7%
\$20,000 to 39,999	5.0%
\$40,000 to 59,999	11.1%
\$60,000 to 79,999	13.8%
\$80,000 to 99,999	16.1%
\$100,000 to 149,999	24.4%
\$150,000 to 199,999	12.0%
\$200,000 and over	13.8%

8. What is your sex?

40.9% *Male*

59.1% *Female*

9. How long before the race did you make plans to participate in the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How far in advance	Percent
The day of the marathon	.1%
1-7 days before the marathon	1.6%
1-4 weeks before the marathon	6.6%
1-6 months before the marathon	59.7%
over 6 months before the marathon	32.0%

10. How did you hear about the 2012 Missoula Marathon?

How heard about Marathon	Percent
Word of mouth	37.6%
Internet	29.3%
I ran the race before	22.7%
Magazine	15.1%
Other** (see below)	9.5%
Group or club	5.7%
E-mail from marathon planners	1.3%
Newspaper	1.0%
Posters	0.6%
Flyer	0.4%
Television	0.1%
Retail outlet	0.1%
Radio	0.0%
Direct mail	0.0%

**Other

1/2 marathon magazine
 50 States Club
 Advertisement from previous race, Coeur d Alene I think
 At Seattle Marathon Expo
 Aunt
 BIG SKY BREWERY
 Daughter ran in it 2011
 family
 Family
 family & friends
 family member
 Family member
 family members that have run the race before
 Family runners
 Family who live here and ran last year
 friend
 Friend from Montana
 friends
 Friends ran it previously.
 From a friend originally from Montana.
 Girlfriend
 googled walker friendly marathon in July
 halfmarathons.net
 Halfmarathons.net
 Houston Maraton Expo
 I was in Missoula last year on packet pick up day and decided to do it the following year.
 Jeff Galloway email
 last year family ran
 list of top US marathons found in web search
 marathon guide
 marathon guide.com
 Marathon list
 Marathon Maniac race calendar
 Marathon Maniacs
 marathonguide
 marathonguide.com
 Marathonguide.com
 Marathonmaniacs, 50 state club
 my daughter ran it last year
 My daughter ran the race 2 years ago and challenged me to do it with her on Christmas Day.
 My daughter suggested we do it as a family.
 My friend chose it for her marathon, and I got more info from the website.
 My friend I went with told me I was going
 National Guard Team
 Other runner
 person who lives in Missoula
 Previous Participant / Friends
 Race Rag
 Raised in western MT, familiar with Missoula events

Read something when in town previously visiting my uncle
 RRCA silent auction
 Runner's World
 Runner's World Magazine
 Runners World
 Runners world website
 searched for races in area
 sister
 Sister who runs alot of marathons.
 Son
 specifically searched for races in MT for the dates I would be here
 UM grad
 VIRTUAL RACE BAG FROM ANOTHER EVENT
 Went to UM and wanted to return
 When knew was coming to Missoula for business, checked the web for any local races
 www.marathonguide.com

11. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the 2012 Missoula Marathon.

Satisfaction	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Organization of the race	87.0%	11.7%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%
Event staff	89.3%	9.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%
Cost of the race	63.3%	25.7%	6.8%	3.5%	0.6%
Location of the race	87.4%	11.5%	0.9%	0.0%	0.3%
Concessions available	59.9%	24.7%	9.2%	2.9%	1.0%
Number of people at the race	72.4%	24.2%	2.9%	0.0%	0.3%
Types of people at the race	74.0%	21.0%	3.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Parking	56.1%	20.0%	8.7%	2.8%	0.4%
Sound system	54.9%	25.6%	13.4%	4.4%	0.6%
Variety of activities	54.8%	29.3%	11.0%	1.3%	0.3%
Cleanliness	80.0%	18.4%	1.2%	0.0%	0.3%
Availability of restrooms	71.7%	19.6%	5.7%	2.0%	0.3%
Signage/directions	72.2%	23.0%	3.3%	1.2%	0.3%

12. When might you return to participate in the marathon again?

10.3% *Never*
 45.7% *Next year*
 44.0% *Within 5 years*

Appendix E Open-Ended Results

Please tell us what you liked about the 2012 Missoula Marathon.

It gave our family a travel destination. I also liked the size of the marathon...not too big. I also appreciated that we could download the race photos for free.

Absolutely everything. This was my 34th half marathon and by far my favorite. I was nervous about the shuttle but it worked great - no problem at all. Loved the finish line area - great food (fruit Popsicles were so good) and was pleased to see seating available. Good decision to limit that area to finishers only. Course was gorgeous and spectators were beyond great. Loved the gummies at mile 10. the medal was extra special and the shirt was very high quality. I knew this would be a good race, but was surprised at how great it really was. Please don't let Competitor Group take you over!!

Great medal and shirt. I liked the fireworks to start the race. Very nice atmosphere and enjoyed Missoula.

Overall, the marathon appeared very well run. This was my fifth marathon (and 14th endurance run in 8 states) and the organization was definitely top-notch. Volunteers were very friendly and helpful; they made sure the runners were taken care of. Very scenic course, especially compared to the training runs I was doing along the Alabama and Florida coasts.

The setting and the organization.

Course, spectators, community support, Missoula!

Course, helpfulness of staff, Jeff Galloway, the sprinkler systems along the way!

the grand piano player

Everything! I have run 27 marathons/half marathons and this is my favorite so far. The size of the race is perfect. Organization top notch. Scenery stunning. Volunteers the nicest and most helpful I have ever seen. And thank you for the free finisher's picture, that was a perfect ending to a perfect day!!!

The location was beautiful and the town is exceptional. I loved the race- - wish the hill were later in the race. We loved the medals!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I loved the course that ran through the Lolo National Forest. ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL !!! Made for an enjoyable race. Also, how much neighborhood support was out in the neighborhoods, and the friendliness of the town people. Very satisfied !!! I wasn't displeased in anyway. I didn't have any glitches in any of the events that I planned to attend. The signage was great. Love the motivational signs along the route. Kept us laughing while we did the miles

Post race food that was friendly to vegetarians. Hilton Garden Inn did a wonderful job of supporting the race by transporting us to the start line by bus and shuttle pick up afterwards. That was really appreciated and cut down on a lot of stress the morning of the race...especially when one is not familiar with the area coupled with the fact that there were 2 start lines. (I did the 1/2 and my spouse the full.) Liked the small city atmosphere where patronage is appreciated. Shady end of the course. Mountain views esp at sunrise. My biggest like: the complimentary picture.

It's a nice flat course. Starting early is good to avoid the heat. Thought the buses were very well organized. Water stations were well organized and plentiful. Police presence at intersections was well organized.

Where to begin? Thank you to everyone involved in making this such an enjoyable event! Liked everything! Highlights: (1) "Word of the West" sayings along the marathon route, (2) the unlimited time to complete this race (the main reason we did your event), (3) the gentleman who played the piano in front of his home in a black suit (I believe he was advertising for his music shop too), (4) gentleman who dressed as a "cowboy" and greeted us along the route, (5) the smiling faces of everyone I came into contact with, (6) the "green" virtual initiative for coupons/flyers/etc was impressive - I liked that concept immensely!, (7) the medal itself was quite a cool design - kudos to the artist(s), (8) the fireworks used at the start line to tell runners the time countdown, and (9) everything else in-between. Thanks again to everyone who made this event possible!!! I'm now free walking advertisement for your event!:)

staff and fireworks and the Band at the expo

Friendly people, location, flat course

This is my 3rd time running the Missoula Marathon. Love it to pieces...my favorite marathon I've ever run. Support, community, stations are all above and beyond!

I liked the course, the water stops, and the volunteers. The medal was terrific. The expo was well organized.

First class event. The family atmosphere.....wife ran 5k, kids the kids marathon and I ran the marathon. People were nice. A lot to do.

The course, the organization, the volunteers, the local support

Everyone at the event was so friendly. The aid stations were set up great and you knew what you were grabbing. The homeowners along the way that set up sprinklers, "god bless them what a life saver". The town was very welcoming and friendly. I also did the beer run that was a PLUS. The crowds were so supportive also.

The volunteers were amazing. The race was very well organized. The food was the best! The fireworks and canon were incredible. Local support from police was great

This was my first race out of my home state... that was fun. It was the first race I ran ever with my best friend... THAT was really fun. And, it was the first half marathon I have done which was attached to a full marathon... THAT was really cool. Now I want to do more like that. It was so wonderfully run and I loved seeing all the marathoners.

The overall atmosphere of the race, staff, and participants. The scenic route. The people of Missoula participation. The finishing metal. Number of aid stations. The shirts. I did mark that I would never come back to run the marathon. I only marked it because I just don't want to run in the same place twice.

The organization was great. The route was good. The early start was good.

Community support, local feel, manageable size

Well organized, supportive crowds, much better post race situation than last year (placement of toss bags, food, refreshment after the run, friendliness, care of volunteers).

The entire thing was absolutely fantastic. Being a former college runner and current high school coach from the east coast I was definitely out of my element. My first race back in 10+ years and I loved everything about it. Thank you so much for a great time and I hope to be back sooner and often.

Beautiful route. Excellent volunteers.good aid. Expo was fun. It was nice to be outside. The finish line location rocked! Oh and the early start for walkers.

The setting is beautiful. The flat, fast course. Volunteers and the whole community along the way were great.

Medal

The race and everything leading up to it were organized with runners in mind. While it was a hot hot day, the race staff did everything to make runners safe and comfortable.

Beautiful scenery

great mile markers, great aid stations, organized finish area, great volunteers, beautiful scenery... early start

The volunteers were wonderful!

Great course, so beautiful and designed to maximize shade and country roads for an enjoyable race! I loved the plentiful and friendly, supportive crowds. Race course not too busy; racers didn't take themselves too seriously. As a first time marathoner I had a lot of fun and felt free to joke around, talk with other racers even as I raced a respectable time. Such a great race. I hope you feel proud of the weekend you put on!

great course awesome volunteers Well placed aid stations bus transportation worked well

I really enjoyed the course. Thought it was a well supported and fun race all around.

A wonderfully friendly group of people and lovely scenery!

Very well organized and volunteers amazing. Lots of restrooms, water, gel etc.

Great spirit visible in the organization team. Good integration in local life. High hospitality. Not too many people (I prefer that to big machineries...). Very friendly pacers. Beautiful scenery.

IT WAS WONDERFUL. BEAUTIFUL COURSE. THE PEOPLE AND AREA WERE WONDERFUL. GREAT START WITH PLENTY OF POTTIES! I LOVED THE DIFFERENT HALF AND FULL MARATHON STARTS.

very well organized event, very good crowd support

Very well organized and the course was beautiful!

Meeting wonderful people and event staff on the beer/social run. The day of the race too and energy and friendliness of the town. Loved the sprinklers!

The small number of participants for the full marathon was nice. Once the gun went off, you were able to cross the start line within 1 minute unlike some of those large races where it's very congested. The bus pickup seemed organized which is a bonus. I loved that you could print out your finishing results family atmosphere and something for the whole family to do

Very organized. Really felt like they cared about ALL the runners. Loved the iced wash cloth about mile 22. That was awesome. Absolutely loved the free photo downloads. Loved starting at 6am. And I love a point to point race. Both the medal and shirt were nice. Missoula rocked it!

Nice having the expo at the farmers market and the early start was great.

world class event. well organized. great city

The course was beautiful and runner friendly. Early start time!! Volunteers were outstanding. Finish area/food great!! Medal - one of my new favorite's out of 26 marathons run to date.

Lots of water/aid stations/the best cheering sections in the country/the beautiful scenery/the well organized transport system to the race start/the early morning start/the number of participants

The flat shady course

very organized

This was my 1st 1/2 marathon and loved it. i have been to missoula a lot in the past and thought it would be a great place to run

Pretty much everything! The course was gorgeous. There was a section "in town" that wasn't great but overall it was beautiful. I liked the size of the field. Small but big enough to always have other runners near you. The spectators were few but I couldn't believe how many people set-up sprinklers and made informative comments i.e. "there is shade ahead". I liked that the Half and Full started in separate locations. I liked that it was an RRCA Championship race. I liked the FB page - a lot. I loved that it was in Missoula! I fell in love with the town.

Beautiful city/state and well supported by community

Well organized,beautiful course,after run food provided.

I loved everything about the race - thank you!! It truly meant the world to me to run the Missoula Marathon!!! My first trip to Montana. The experience of a lifetime!!!

IT WAS SIMPLE AND CLEAN AND EVERYONE WAS VERY NICE

I liked that I could walk to the buses and be transported to the starting line; I LOVED the 6 am start. The medals were nice; There was enough water on the course I ABSOLUTELY LOVED that as a 5:47 finisher I could get a 15-minute massage. I did not mind paying \$15. In fact it was a price performer. At too many marathons, guys and gals that finish with similar times cannot get massages because the massage crew is packing up with a 6-hour time limit. PLEASE keep the 6.5 hour time limit AND the massages.

Beautiful course, friendly people along the course. Gels and electrolyte water.

town support, great people, beautiful course, nice expo

The wonderful people of Missoula and Montana,spectators and crowd support.Running through the pretty scenery and places.

Race organization was excellent. Loved the extra activities - beer run, Galloway, 5K day before the race. Loved the support of the community.

As a Marathon Maniac and member of 50 state club, it allowed me to check off Montana in an absolutely beautiful setting.

Beautiful course; helpful volunteers; great organization; nice amenities (t-shirt, medal, etc.); beer run; pacers (awesome!); finish area at Caras Park, including Expo in general, live band, Big Sky Brewery participation and Farmers's Market, (both Sat and Sun.)

The early start time the scenery how well organized the entire event was from start to finish the locals cheering us on!

The volunteers were great. The race was very efficient; IE: Package pickup was easy and receiving results at the end was the most efficient process. There were tons of water stations and the water volunteers were super supportive.

Scenery, People,

the enthusiasm of the community

Very organized and well prepared, very cooperative and supportive people, great atmosphere, great route with nice view and pretty T-shirt.

The run

Beautiful course

The atmosphere and volunteers

Overall it's a great race and the people in Missoula are fabulous!

This was my 22nd marathon, and it's definitely one of the best. I honestly would not change anything about it. The 6 a.m. start was essential this year because of the heat (after running my last two in 80+ degrees, I appreciate it). The volunteers and traffic controls were superb. The aid stations seemed perfectly placed. And the views after cresting the hill halfway through made for some of the coolest miles I've ever run. I seriously loved this race.

Awesome! Very well organized and supplied, crowd support was awesome. Beautiful. One of the best I've done (#15)

I liked that it was in July, with an early start to beat the heat. The price was good compared to other similar races. The shirts and medals handed out were really nice. The race was organized well and the food afterward was delicious.

This is a great race and I've raced in big races all thru-out the South. This ranks right up with the best. Well, maybe even better because there is no high humidity. The number of volunteers is amazing and they each contribute to this great run. I am no longer a runner but this is a great walking event also.

small and organized event.

what a great race! The scenery was spectacular, weather conditions perfect, volunteers/spectators so friendly and welcoming. I had a great experience in Missoula and look forward to coming back and spending more time in western Montana. Water stations and course were well marked and supported (I participated in half marathon distance). Bus transport to start organized and efficient. The Friday Beer run was a great way to start off the weekend. Thanks for letting all of us run wild in Missoula!

There was a lot to like! I liked: that the marathoners and half marathoners had their own shirts; the free photo that was taken and printed out for us after the finish line; that we were able to print out a little card with our time and splits and group placement in the post-race tent; the free micro-brew beer in the post-race tent; the spectators, while not great in number, were quite enthusiastic; many local residents set up sprinklers for the runners to run through. It was a very well-organized small-town race.

Friendly people in the race

Mainly the support along the run. All the locals seemed like great people.

Very well organized. Friendly people. I have run 30 marathons and this was one of the best in terms of organizations and course.

great course and support

The entire event was well organized and transportation to the starting point was efficient. Once I arrived at the start, there were plenty of restrooms and lots of space for runners to warm up and prepare for the race. While running, the amount of volunteers and number of aid stations along the course were fantastic!

Great support from the city. The early start helped avoid the heat.

The course, the people, the city, and the outdoor expo were amazing. The overall feel of the event was great. I loved the town support, and the pianist playing the grand piano out on the course. Very cool hearing "Chariots of Fire" while running a marathon. :-)

Well organized, friendly environment from staff, volunteers, participants, and community in general. I am not a fast runner, finished just under 4:30, and in previous races, (not in Missoula), they have ran out of gels even WATER along the route, the last marathon I ran boosted of pizza and cookie dough at the finish, both were gone at my 5 hour finish:(Missoula, NICE JOB, every aid station was fully stocked with adequate food/fluids and volunteers. The finish food was in abundance, Thank You! I never felt crowded throughout the event. I felt welcome even though I am not an elite runner nor even a fast runner! What a good feeling.

The course was flat and fast and the spectators were awesome!!! Loved the sprinklers to run through. So organized....thank you for giving us a gear bag and a REAL race shirt, not cotton t-shirts!!!

Loved the community support. Many sprinklers and ice chests of ice towards the end. Man playing piano on lawn. Occasional radio good too. Course beautiful. Logistics great.nice friendly group of runners. For a first time marathoner I felt spoiled by such a great experience. All the encouraging signs were great too. I won't forget the cowboy on horseback up on the high road. Thank you over and over for an incredible experience. Missoula is a place I want to return to and someday run another marathon.... Faster next time;) oh yeah also nice to get a women's technical shirt and the bag is one I will use. Nice quality.

national parks all around, great people, beautiful place

Friendly support staff

Well organized, fairly scenic, flat course

The early start. Shade trees on course. Fireworks at start. The grand piano on someone's front lawn.

Exceptionally well organized. First race with right amount of porta-potties. Separate half-marathon start and run really helped with crowding. Friendly staff. Well-organized shuttle set-up. LOVED the start along the pastures, with cows mooing and donkeys looking at us. Pretty race along river, then friendly people in town. Great shirt and medal design.

Best directional signage I've experienced in a race. Not once did I wonder if I was going the right way. Liked the point-to-point route, thought scenery was terrific. Really appreciated all the port-a-potties at the start! Finishing medals also very nice.

the volunteers and the people of Missoula were all outstanding! everyone in general was very helpful and kind toward strangers. Made you feel welcome and were supportive of you being a marathoner.those ladies on the bikes were very helpful and encouraging to those of us slower runners a special thanks to Sue Brown and all her fellow bike sweepers. she helped encourage Lisa when she was hurting coming in! it meant a lot to her to get her state!

Everything! I LOVED the crowd and community support! I loved the course, the included pictures, the beautiful medals and the post run food. It was my 7th half marathon and has been my favorite thus far ! We are already planning a return trip for next year! Perhaps I'll try my first marathon at Missoula...

I love the course, the volunteers, the weather, and that's it's very organized with a variety of races for all types of runners.

I absolutely loved this marathon (half). From the event organizers to the course to the location it was wonderful. But I think the thing that stands out the most is the community members and how they came out along the course to cheer us on. The sprinklers, the popsicles, the man playing the piano - were all above and beyond and showed what a wonderful community Missoula is.

The support of people along the race and also the activities prior to race day.

Great Organization, beautiful location, great course, everything was awesome

I loved the medal, the early start, the course, the organization and transportation to the start line. I loved having the free beer and easy access to it well organized. I loved the free group picture. I loved that my whole family had such a good time. My Grand kids did the kids marathon and three of our family did the half, and i did the full. I am hoping to make this a yearly tradition.

Beautiful course, walkable race buses from my downtown hotel, great race staff and volunteers, free race photos, great finish and food/drink at afterparty, race medal was nice as well

The volunteers were amazing!

It was exceptionally well organized. It was my first full marathon and I am a competitive walker. I had chosen this race as it was voted the #1 walker friendly marathon as reported in a running magazine and I felt that my husband would enjoy accompanying me here because of the location in Montana. When I got here, I was surprised by how incredibly well organized it was and how beautiful and culturally exciting Missoula is. It is a walker friendly town and we were surprised on the Friday evening we arrived to be part of a Friday art gallery walk. When we first arrived, we thought the downtown looked dead and boring, but decided to grab a bite to eat at a pizza spot. Afterwards, I encouraged my husband to walk around a bit and WOW what a change from earlier on! The early start for walkers and slower runners was well organized and the fireworks just made me happy--what a special and exciting thing to do. The virtual race bag was a great idea and I was able to use my coupon at the Good Food Company which I purposely set out to find since it was a great deal. Although I didn't have my smartphone with me, the retailer was willing to grant me this coupon and I got a bar free BOGO. The next day, I was astounded at the quality of food provided after the race--thoughtful and delicious and efficiently delivered. I had recently passed out at another race because I had to wait for food in a crowded line in the sun. It was nowhere near as hot as it was on the day of the Missoula race, but I ended up in hospital. So, the food being efficiently delivered, with shade provided was incredibly important. I felt that people cared about me during the entire race with water and gatorade provided at every checkpoint AND washrooms! Since I had hydrated so thoroughly with the high temperatures forecast (and my experience at the Mississauga 1/2 Marathon in May still making me worried), the washrooms were pretty important, too. The interest of neighbours along the entire route was very touching--High 5s, sprinklers, coolers of ice, oranges, and one boy who just made me laugh looking for his next target (with an inviting sign that let you "ask" if you wanted to be sprayed) with his super soaker water cannon. I loved the coverage in the paper the next day and enjoyed reading about it at breakfast at the hotel the next morning (wish I'd picked up a copy). The hotel where we stayed was fabulous, with the staff taking an interest in my own results, and the results of others who were also racing. They provide breakfast early enough for my early start which, in my experience, is unheard of! (Value-Inn!!!!) Also loved the vendors at the Expo and got myself a few things that I needed and wanted. I wish that I could have returned after the race.

Outstanding organization and support. The gear bags were a great idea, even if the stickers didn't work so well. The Facebook site was a great way to disseminate last-minute information. The course was beautiful and well signed. Loved seeing all the unofficial "aid stations" and local support. Great idea starting it early to avoid the heat. I was pleasantly surprised that the Race Director himself answered an email query I had.

Everything - The best organized marathon. Food at finish line. Friendly community. Beautiful course.

Liked the community involvement-local support,cheering, sprinklers set up by local residence Liked the entertainment on route in particular the grand piano in the farmer's front yard Liked the quantity of aid stations. Liked the scenic start to the course Liked that it was a flat course Liked the bus service to the start

well run i like the early start nice finish, volunteers were excellent aid stations were placed at good distances

early start, well spaced aid stations, excellent staff and volunteers, the medal was cool

Very well organized the people along the route that live in Missoula were really great giving encouragement, water, sprinklers! Loved the end going across the bridge and also it was great food & drink at the end. It was nice to be able to sit down and enjoy some great food in the shade! Also love the design of the medal.

The event was well planned and the community totally supported the participants

The finish and expo location was great, right in the heart of downtown activities -shuttle to start was easy and on time -size of the race -course was so scenic -staff was on top of weather changes and very prepared for heat -free photos!!!

Great organization,cost was good,medal & shirt were nice, finish area was great, volunteers were wonderful

Many water stations with plenty of porta potties. The start was well organized, and I particularly liked the fireworks. I enjoyed the sprinklers that the residents had used. The town really got behind the runners.

This is hands down the most organized, friendly overall fantastic race event I've ever done. I've finished 8 halves and countless 5 and 10K's over the years - this was my first full marathon and it couldn't have gone more smoothly - and i even needed medical assistance at the end. The staff was incredible.

Perfect size and liked the downtown finish near Caras

Loved the course, loved the volunteers, loved the community.

Fireworks, ease of picking up packet, aid stations were arranged in right order after mile marks and in same order every time with great helpers, miles marked well, unique awards, interesting course, drop bag setups before & after race

volunteers and staff were organized and very friendly. Loved the venue for the expo and post race party along with the live entertainment.

I have nothing to compare, was first marathon but enjoyed the experience

Friendly spectators, beautiful country. Great finish, medal and runners village. Separating the 1/2 and whole marathons is a great idea.

Missoula Marathon was a very organized event. There was plenty of everything. Good size expo and enough of vendors so you don't get too confused in what to buy. Buses were efficiently punctual, making the transportation worry free. They were plenty of toilets at the start and on the course, which avoided long lines. The course was awesome and the support from volunteers and residents along the course were impressive. Finishing the race was a great experience, plenty of food and treats made this event, the best I've experienced in my 45 previous marathons. Congratulations on a well ran event and thank you for making this marathon, my favorite.

This is my 6th year and the race has always been great. The two best new improvements were (1) the gear bag pick up being so close to the food at the finish (not in the Park as previously) and (2) the fireworks at the start were AWESOME and unexpected. Please keep doing them as a surprise... That they were unexpected was the best part and they just kept going and everyone was grinning as we started to run! I love your t-shirts now, although the orange was a little weird... Although I don't hate it. Please keep using that company with the great fabric and women's fit.

start time, 15 minute fireworks intervals. Have fireworks ahead of the start line so visible for runners facing forward. Trade show location, all around most excellent.

The event preparedness, the course, the volunteers, the community support and the neer run! ;)))

Start of marathon makes it feel like a bigger race than most it's size. the finish into the downtown and the general well organized race with lots of perks for runners.

Ran the half. Broke 2 hours!!!!Bus transport was efficient. 6AM start. Starter fireworks! Flat course was great. Volunteers were awesome. Resident support/hoses & cooling stations. Excellent finish approach. Liked the medals and t shirts. Finisher's food was amazing. Some of the best food options I've seen. Easy access to exit area. The awesome Jeff Galloway!

The course was beautiful and cool. I loved the signs posted for motivation and all the spectators out cheering. I also thought it was very positive to see a football team out volunteering. Oh, and the sprinklers!

Good communication on all events, weather, and general info about the race, great value at \$75, good weather, decent crowd support, great finishing stretch, nice race course, great medal, well organized bus transport to start. Liquids at the aid stations were always in a consistent order - sports drink first, followed by water - and the volunteers were great about being clear about what they held. Great variety of post-race food . Liked the ability to print out race results after the race. The Beer Run was a fun event.

The scenery is second to none. The people are friendly.

The view;The people

Everything. It's a great race. This was my second full Marathon in Missoula and my husbands first. We love it and have already made plans to do it again next year.

The incredible beauty of the course and the fantastic residents of Missoula! The course had plenty of fluids and was well staffed.

How well organized it was for that many runners. Well marked and mostly flat course.

Fireworks, organization of all events

It was my first marathon and it was a fabulous experience. It will take quite an event to match out beat the quality of the Missoula marathon. The way the community gets involved and supports us as runners was a real encouragement to me.

i absolutely love the course. Please, PLEASE, PLEASE don't ever change it.

The water sprinklers and the people cheering us on.

Excellent organization!!! Appreciated the 8-page PDF flyer summarizing info to know. The fun Facebook comments. Good number of people racing (not too many). Good bus system to the start. Scenic route (the views from the hill are awesome!) Many sprinklers in town. The grand piano guy. Easy, free parking near the finish. Good venue (with shade!) for expo/post-race activities. On-time awards ceremony. Results print-out. Smallish city/airport like my hometown - comfortable and easy to find our way around. That I was able to fly there on Alaska Airlines miles.

It seemed to very well organized and thought out. Where you finished the race was pretty cool. My kids enjoyed the kids marathon.

The community threw its support behind the race. And it was a festival. So much to see and do in Missoula. Loved the First Friday gallery shows and the farmers and craft markets. Everything was within walking distance. Lots of restaurants. Packet pick up was easy. Nice variety on the course. Loved the 6 am start! Great support from the neighbors-lots of sprinklers. Loved the copper horseshoe medal! Loved seeing so many Marathon Maniacs. Loved that this was a July race- too few of those.

I loved running in Missoula. I feel very blessed to have spent Sunday running through town. This is the first race I have done where the aid stations had Gatorade first and water second at every stop(this is not the norm even though race instructions will say this). It was great to know I could count on the consistency. I also loved that I could enter/exit the secure zone. I was able to finish, go cheer for my friends, and get a picture taken with them-again not the norm at other races.

It is a beautiful course. I loved that the half Marathon started at 6 am instead of later. The people were incredibly kind and helpful.

totally amazed with the whole thing. The support of the community along the course made us forget we were even running(and that's hard to do!) volunteers were exceptionally friendly,event staff were great!

Public support and encouragement, the sprinklers, and the course itself.

The course was beautiful, especially the middle section. Number of participants was good. -- I like to run/walk on marathons, so I prefer races that don't have too many participants, because that makes using run/walk more difficult. Community support was good. -- It was a warm day for a marathon, and several people had sprinklers in front of their houses, which was helpful at the end. Medals were very nice.

This was by far the best organized and run event that I have participated in. From the packet pick up, to the shuttle, and after party, everything went smoothly. The support of the town members along the course (especially all of the sprinklers and ice!!) was fantastic.

Beautiful course, cool dry morning temps, organization, friendliness of race officials and volunteers

Easy transportation to start, good selection of post-finish food, nice shirt provided

Well organized, started on time and went as planned.

Great weather!! And great people!!

The volunteers!

1) Bus pickup from the parking garage downtown was efficient and very smooth. There were two different pickup areas (for the half versus the full), and they were well-marked. Volunteers knew exactly where to direct runners and were cheerful in the very early morning. 2) Plenty of port-o-potties at the pre-race waiting area. 3) There was an issue with not all of us getting the stick-on numbers for our gear bags, and the ones who did get them had trouble with them sticking onto the bag. They were ready with supplies before the start so that we could clearly mark our bags. 4) Speaking of gear bags, these were pretty nice, & had a zippered pocket on the outside. I'll keep it and reuse it. (Thanks for not giving us plastic gear bags that just end up going into the trash!) 5) The course, all the way until you get into town, is absolutely beautiful. There's an old You Tube video out there that doesn't begin to do it justice. 6) An early start (6am)! Need I say more? 7) Separate starts for the full and half marathoners. 8) A few fireworks prior to the start. Very different and a nice touch. 9) Liquids at the aid stations were always in a consistent order 'sports drink first, followed by water' and the volunteers were great about being clear about what they held. 10) Although I carry my own, they did have several aid stations on the course handing out gels. 11) The community comes out to support the runners all along the course!! At times, it was sparse (after all, you're running out in the Montana countryside), but there were still people there! And they cheered for you! Really great spectators all along this course (who became more numerous the farther along the course we ran)! 12) A great finish on the bridge! And there were tons of spectators cheering! 13) The finish area- Photographers would take your picture after you finished, solo or in a group or both. The photos were free,

and we were able to print them out before we left. Finish area was well organized & flowed well. Great variety of post-race food not just your usual fruit and bagels. There was a tent with tables and chairs where the food was so that we could actually sit down in the shade and eat. Gear bag area was very well- organized and when I walked up to get mine, the lady volunteering already had it ready to hand to me. 14) They had an actual awards ceremony, and the announcer called out the winning times. 15) We were able to enter our bib # into a computer and get a printout of our results immediately. 16) Caras Park for the post-race/awards ceremony was great. There was a good celebratory vibe going on. 17) GREAT volunteers who were enthusiastic, helpful, and cheerful! 18) The medal is really unique and interesting!

The course is amazing!! Water stops were ample and the power aid was a good strength.

The citizens of Missoula are awesome! The genuine support I encountered along the entire route of the race was incredible.

The city really comes together to show its love! The course is awesome too; well marked and great to run. The massage I had at the end was definitely worth every penny.

Did the 1/2 marathon and the route was beautiful... Love the town/city atmosphere

The point to point course and location. The best fitting race shirt.

Very well organized Great course well marked Kindness Early cool start

Beautiful course, friendly people, love Missoula Cool shirt

Great course, also enjoyed the 5K on Saturday

Beautiful course as well as beautiful part of the country. Enjoyed the variety of the course in terms of being able to run through country, along the river and through Missoula city limits. Like the early 6 am start.

Beautiful surroundings. Nice to see residents had set up sprinklers along the way and were cheering.

Half Marathon - start of race course was along the river. Scenic-Very nice route at the beginning. Price / cost to enter race was affordable. Felt I got my money's worth compared to races in WA and CA area (many races are popping up and seem to be more spent on charging an arm and leg and getting NOTHING in return causing racers to be much more selective of what races I will spend money on: running or triathalons both). Bus organization in morning was very well done. Fireworks were awesome at start of race. Video footage at beginning of race was a fun surprise! Like the idea that I read we will get a free picture!!! And the food at the end of the race was THE BEST I HAVE EVER SEEN / HAD...awesome awesome awesome! Great tables and shade to eat too! Gear pick up at end was great! Finish line for spectators was good. And the shirts were cool! Finish line medals were heavy and very well done. Overall best half marathon. I've done over 40 races in past 6 yrs .

Very friendly volunteers, Very friendly volunteers and Very friendly volunteers. Beautiful course, helpful staff, etc.

The course, the volunteers, the communication from the race director, ease of packet pick-up, finish line festival, awards ceremony, medals, other participants

I loved the course, the volunteers, spectators, and the various activities available throughout the weekend! We traveled from the other side of the country, so it was nice to have the beer run, 5k, and marathon available as activities while we were there. Missoula is a great town and the race committee couldn't have been more helpful!

The weather! I'm from Houston and it is just so wonderful to take a break from the heat and humidity.

Organization, course, free photos. Overall: excellent.

i really liked the way the town came out in support of all the runners.

The mountain views were beautiful and the spectators & race officials were all very friendly.

have done the race every year since it started and it does a great job of keeping up with it increasing popularity

Very organized race with helpful aid stations

extremely organized, great community support, excellent aid stations, great post race area

I loved the volunteers!!! They were awesome, it was great to see smiling faces as you went by, even if you were a walker like me. The runners were amazing as well. I liked that there weren't many hills in the course. It helped me get through.

1?beautiful city 2?friendly cheer people 3?free photo 4?free Energy Gels

Running along the river in the early morning (half marathon). Really appreciated the support of the homeowners along the route, particularly the sprinklers

Nice view and scenery along the entire course.

My first time walking a 1/2 Marathon so not much to compare it to. Very walker friendly. Loved the course. Good location of water stations. Wonderful volunteers. Great finish line. Easy check in. Missoula is a great little city and this was a fun race. I will definitely come back.

I LOVED everything!

Anders was very gracious and helpful. The water & gatorade was cold at every station. Orange slices and bananas were a great perk. The food tent afterwards and the support staff (volunteers) were outstanding. Spectators were supportive and plentiful. An all around favorable experience.

People

Great support and crowds cheering. Cool town

Well organized, early start, COLD water and ice at water stops, awesome volunteers, community support, well marked course, sprinklers, efficient bus system to get to start, Facebook and email contact leading up to race

The number and locations of aid stations, entertainment along the way, the overall energy.

Piano player, signs, food

Beautiful location, nice course, well organized, 6am start, all of the support -- especially the residents turning on their sprinklers! -- along the route. Good quantity and variety of food at the end. Loved seeing the Coca-Cola truck at the finish line with all the PowerAde!

Beautiful course, great community involvement and fun atmosphere.

the race, the town, the walks along the river

The course is great of course (half)! Very well organized and a fun experience again!

Very friendly & supportive people. Excellent course that was scenic and enjoyable to run.

Friendly atmosphere. Well organized.

plenty of porta Potties--Volunteers

Well organized, lots of bathrooms and water opportunities along the course, shuttles were on-time and well organized

I loved the community support. The route was beautiful. The energy and commitment of the people of Missoula was excellent.

Everything! We do a lot of destination half marathons and this was by far the best one in all categories. The whole overall experience from transportation, volunteers, organization, aid stations, race course, & weather, to name a few, was spectacular!

Scenery, well marked course

I loved how the community came out to support it. I also liked the expo for the 5k at the brewery, that was fun. The course and volunteers were great!

liked that it started early and all the water stops and sprinklers on

Course, temp at start, medal, beer.

I was really impressed by the public support for the race and the way many people along the course had their houses out here to help cool down people and how many volunteers there were helping out along the course.

THE COURSE/GENERAL ORGANIZATION

In all fairness, I say that I will probably not do this race again, only because my husband and I are attempting to do a marathon in each state. It is nothing against the race at all. I've done 52 marathons, and this race is easily in my top 3 for organization, volunteers, course. It was obvious that the volunteers had been trained in how to hold the cups for runners to grab easily. They also made it very clear which cups had water and which had Gatorade. I was so impressed. They were all friendly and very attentive. Also, towards the latter part of the race, it seemed like there were more medical staff on hand. I felt like I was being 'quizzed' a bit to make sure my husband and I were ok. I really appreciated this. It was very reassuring to know that if we'd been in trouble, someone would have been close by to help. I also liked the medical bus that was roaming the course so runners could cool down if they needed to. The spectators were awesome, too. I love it when people come out to cheer. It's so inspiring. I also really appreciated all of the porta potties on the course. I didn't have to wait to use one all day. I liked having the option. Great medals! They really capture the spirit of the race.

An extremely well organized event from package pick-up to race bag pick-up post event. Race organizers and volunteers friendly and most helpful. The course is beautiful, weather is amazing, and fans on the race course have amazing spirit.

Well organized

Beautiful flat course! Loved the community encouragement and support. The guy with the baby grand piano was GREAT! The volunteers were very friendly and helpful.

Beautiful setting. Well organized. Good food at the end!

People who volunteer at the race are really nice: at the buses, at the intersections along the way cheering us on, everyone! The cold beer is a treat! The photographers along the way did a particularly good job this year. Before the race, I had trouble registering, and Vic was very helpful - kept e-mailing me to make sure it all worked out...thank you! The bathrooms were very accessible, which is important at that hour of the morning. The buses were right on time, and the driver was pleasant. I LOVE the medal this year - nice design. (I didn't particularly care for the design in 2011.) We used the coupon from the marathon for the cheap beer at the Tamarack Pub - and that is a great place! I REALLY, REALLY enjoyed the sayings along the route - last year they were Top Gun sayings, this year they were Old West sayings. We had a good laugh over many of them. It made the walk a lot more fun....please continue that tradition! The treats were better this year (yummy nuts at the start), and we made a point of trying to eat better this year so we didn't run out of energy. Thanks for everything! LOVE Montana. We are planning to come back next summer.

Good course and great support. All the locals were out with water sprinklers to cool us off and you don't see that at many marathons! Very friendly place to be. Worth the 28 hr drive there and back.

well organized race. Definitely one of the better marathons that I have participated in

This is one of the best run 1/2 marathons. From the first one, it has been good.

It is a wonderful course. Pretty flat with one easy hill. The only drawback is the weather. HOT!

The fabulous Missoulians along the course! From the kids handing out gummies, water, oranges, ice, to the awesome police officers patiently holding up traffic, to the great volunteers at check-in. Not to mention the retail clerks wishing us well. Did I mention the bus drivers? This is "our" marathon because of all this!

This was my 8th marathon outside my home state of Texas and it was probably the best organized and most scenic one in which I have participated. My fellow marathoners were very congenial and the volunteers were great. While the spectators were few in number, the enthusiasm of those there and the generous donations of water via sprinklers made up for this. The shirt and medals are some of my favorites and the complementary photo was a total perk.

Great volunteers and organization.

Close to home; great community support; great weather (although a bit warm!)

Well organized. Friendly support staff and volunteers. Great crowd support. Wonderful scenery.

Medal was AWESOME this year! People are always friendly/helpful. Very well organized. The first day deal of \$50 is great. I hope you offer that again.

This is the one of the most beautiful courses I have ever run. I have run marathons on four continents and this is as well-organized a race as I have ever encountered. The medals were fantastic. I have run about 15 marathons and half-marathons. The medals in this race were far and away the best. You should have them submitted for some kind of award. They were that good!!! Keep up the good work,

I appreciated all the volunteers who came out to help make the race possible and also the individuals who came out to cheer on the runners!

I liked the course and how well it was run.

Love the community support this event receives.

Awesome course

Well organized logistically. Package pickup and post-race clothing pickup were a joy. Please let Scotiabank Calgary marathon organizers know that you can provide tips on how to do post-race gear pickup efficiently...

Great support on the course, friendly people in the city supporting the race

Beautiful course, well staffed, easy to get to start, smooth start and finish line

Friendly! Fun! Organized! Convenient! Perfect!

Course was nice, temp was nice in the morning and was able to finish before it started getting hot.

The number of volunteers on the course

Loved the course. Really loved the medal and shirt and was thrilled with all the sprinklers, ice and support from the neighborhoods in the last few miles. Loved it all!

course and support

The course itself was well thought out and benefitted the runners due to the heat. The volunteers and local people along the way were incredibly kind and thoughtful.

I loved how the homeowners were out in their yards and supportive to the runners. It was great when they had sprinklers on and in the street. Loved it. Also, Thank you for having a 5am start!

The course was great.

I like that there was a later packet pick up available since I travel from Spokane and I always feel like we're rushing to get to the expo before it closes. The gear drop pick up was better organized. I like the shuttles, medals, choice of a woman's fit T-shirt, plenty of porta potties, volunteers, and aid stations. I like the community involvement, course, and start time. It's cool that Jeff Galloway participates. Overall, I love this race. 2010 was my first half marathon ever and I've come back every year since and I plan to keep coming back.

Well put together! Can't stop talking about the positive experience.

So well organized, tech woman specific marathon specific shirts, awesome awesome medal, lots of well manned water stations

The course. _____

beautiful course! Spectators and volunteers made the race great! I felt catered to by the race volunteers and staff. Thank you for putting on this fun event!

Very lively, organized and fun. Lots of local participation.

I love the new "bag" pick up area. Great job. Love the shirt. Love the food.

The beautiful course, and the course support

The public support was outstanding. I was amazed at what I saw along the run route. A guy in a tux playing a grand piano, sprinklers, a band playing in the park....it was incredible.

The community really supports the event. There was people all along the course, clapping and cheering, playing music, providing sprinklers to run through, I was totally amazed and pleased.

For my first race it was great! I loved the course and how well it was put together. Just wish the expo was bigger.

I loved the course, the scenery was great and the weather was perfect. There were plenty of water stations and they were labeled well, showing which was water or sport drink. I liked that the finish line was at the bridge downtown. Also it was great to have announcers at the finish line, I thought that was a cool Ironman-like touch. I will definitely be back as I love Missoula and this race was great.

everything

Friendly volunteers, well organized expo and transportation. Also enjoyed the community support on the course; ice, sprinklers and Popsicles! I'll recommend this race to my friends and will also return again.

Coffee at the buses

It was amazingly well organized. Everything was very clean, and always available.

Very nice course at least through the first 18/19 miles. The finish is great coming over the bridge and hearing the crowd and announcer. Nice community. Lots of aid stations. Finish line food/drink and refueling was great.

The ease of getting on a shuttle bus. The aid stations were well staffed. Great organization at the finish.

Very well organized, nice early start time, nice course, friendly people along the route, great water stops, excellent medal, nice bright tech shirt for the event (half) nice to have the expo outside, great weather, ease of navigation after the race was very good. easy to find the results tent. Staff was very friendly also. nice food and drinks @ the end also.

The people were SO friendly! Of the 18 marathons I have now run, this one ranks at the top of the list. The Beer Run on Friday was great fun, and so many members of the running club greeted me and my family. It is no wonder to me that this marathon has been ranked as the best in the country. Keep up the great work!

Loved the community support, especially sprinklers!

Everything. Great volunteers, nice course, friendly bus driver to race start, after race food, water stops, expo and the expo location. location and setup of finish line. nice and unique medal and ribbon

It was great, the course was lovely.

Loved the community coming out and supporting the race

Very organized- nice vacation trip with extended family. We felt Missoula was easy to get around- enjoyed all the marathon activities and had fun.

I've paid twice as much money to run a brand name event (rock n' roll) and it was half as fun. This was incredibly well organized. I also loved the course, its challenging but gives runners a solid chance for to PR. It was also nice to see coffee available when getting on/off the busses in the morning. All the little details were taken care of. I had a terrible race due to injuries and illness but find myself recommending this event to everyone I know.

Everything. Medal was cool. Shirt was ok

The course was great!

Organizing runners according to their projected times and keeping walkers behind. Scenery. Lots of port-o-potties. Funny commentary before race.

The community support was awesome! I really appreciate all the volunteers that were there at 4:30 am with smiles on their faces. I will definitely be back next year! Best in the West indeed!

I liked the community feeling behind the entire race. The local individuals that came out to cheer, provide sprinklers, treats, and just general encouragement made it a really amazing race. It was incredibly organized and any question that I did have was answered easily by a variety of friendly volunteers. This was my first marathon and I'm so glad that I chose to run in Missoula. The race exceeded my expectations and I appreciate all the effort that went into organizing this event.

The sense of community was overwhelming. I enjoyed the piano player in his front yard, and the people who lived in the neighborhoods we ran through cheered us on with such enthusiasm! The runners were all enthusiastic, kind people. It was an honor to be part of this event.

Half marathon starting miles were what I came for! Beautiful!

This race was awesome!! The weather/climate were wonderful. The town was awesome and people were super nice!! I would recommend it and hope to be back next year!!!

Everything

Love the course. Volunteers were great. Neighbors along the course were very supportive. Love the medal!

We enjoyed every minute of the race and every minute we spent in Missoula, from the double rainbow over Broadway on Saturday night to the chocolate shakes at the Uptown Grill after the race.

Organized as usual. Great support from the community. Easy to get on a bus and there was coffee at the bus this year!

Well organized, plenty of bathrooms, easy start, accurate mileage/marks, nice medal and shirt, quick results, free photo.

Awesome venue & people. Great race, great town!

Very well organized! I hold Missoula up as the poster of how a marathon should work. Everyone is so kind along the route as well. I have nothing but good things to say.

Town, course, support was wonderful

Too many things to like about MM! We loved the outdoor expo, the marathon course, fireworks, 6am start, great medal and shirt, popsicles, Big Sky Brewing company and AWESOME VOLUNTEERS!

Overall organization was fantastic; ease of communication with the race director. Great course, especially the first 20 miles - beautiful and scenic. Aid stations were well stocked and frequent enough. The medal was AWESOME. I loved the printing stations at the finish where you could print out your time/placing. I haven't used it yet because photos are not available yet, but WOW - free photos download ? That's unheard of. This is fantastic

incredibly organized for being a relatively large event. buses, portable toilets, aid stations, volunteers, town enthusiasm, finish line amenities ... everything was perfectly organized. As a participant in this event, you really feel like you are being cared for, and it makes a HUGE difference. This was one of the best running experiences I've ever had.

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Almost everything! Excellent organization, parking at the bus pick-up was free and easy, good transportation, beautiful course, friendly volunteers, plenty of aid stations, sprinklers turned on during the last half, nice expo, great price, good food at finish line, good quality t-shirt and medal and bag, pace-groups. THIS WAS A FANTASTIC RACE. I've run in London, Boston, San Francisco, Tokyo, Sacramento as well as many smaller marathons, and this was undoubtedly the best organized and most fun of them all (no exaggeration).

Well organized and communicated details. Buses and bag drop etc. were very smooth. The expo and after race area well organized.

I loved the course and that it was an early run to beat the heat. The bus volunteers were so cheerful despite it being early which made me even more excited for the race. I also loved the humor of the announcer at the start of the half marathon.

Beautiful scenery

This was my 1st half marathon and i was nervous about it. It was so easy to get around and the information about where we needed to be and when was excellent. There were volunteers everywhere and because of this once we got to Missoula there was no stress about the race at all. It was a beautiful course and I can't wait to come back. Thank you for making my first an amazing and fun experience!!

Organization

I thought that the community support was really nice to see. Also, I enjoyed starting outside of the city then getting into the community more. Gave you a real feel for what Missoula is about and has to offer! Also, I loved the finish area! Crossing the bridge like that was just a really nice finale to the run!

Great flat course. Support along the way was wonderful. Lots of aid stations. Fun weekend of festivities.

I like that it encourages walkers to participate and I love the support that the Missoula residents give along the course. Every thing seemed well organized, esp the bussing system. Plenty of porta potties, which is a good thing. The gear bag system was really well organized also. Loved getting a post-race picture. It's my third year in a row and I really like it.

The overall organization, very positive crowd out cheering and supporting the runners, and especially the baby grand piano player, fireworks in frenchtown...all was great for my first time marathon-ing

Friendliness of the people. Very organized community supported event and it shows. Low cost makes it more appealing to travel far to run this race each year.

Love the firework start, signs along the way, metal was awesome, food was great, oranges and gummy bears during race, lots of volunteers, size of race, transportation to race from hotel, free pictures, ease of picking up race bibs, lots of potties at start of race Great course like the separate section for walkers free beer yeah gear bags awesome. Didn't do the gear check but it was well organized. Really some of these big races like rock and roll needs to take lessons from your organizers.

I really liked how organized the event was, the friendly volunteers, lots of aid stations, good food at finish, lots of potties, beautiful course and how the residents of Missoula turned out to cheer and provide sprinklers, etc.

Everything was top-notch!

Course for the 1/2 was great.

Fantastic race. Love the presence on Facebook also.

The community support. Especially those along the route.

Missoula is a beautiful city , nice course, the volunteers where outstanding! The fireworks at the start where awesome (nice touch) and all the porta-potties as well.The finish line "spread" of refueling foods and refreshments where outstanding!! Great Job Marathon Commitees for this ,it was nicely organized.See you all next year! Thank you for hosting this race in your beautiful city!

I was very pleased with the route--so beautiful. The start of the race mc, singing, and fireworks were amazing. I defiitely would rate this as my favorite half marathon, and I have run 6. Thank you all for all the work you did. I like that it started at 6. Thanks for arranging perfect running conditions. The grand piano was also a plus.

This is was my first marathon and it was awesome. I loved the community support and participation and the volunteers were so friendly and encouraging. I thought the race path was fun and enjoyed running through the town of Missoula. I really thought finishing on the bridge downtown was an awesome spot to finish.

The event was so well organized. It had everything needed to run a race this size. I loved the amount of portapotties.

6 am start so I finish before my hotel check out time great! Some very cold water stations around late mile point

very well organized, extremely well supported, well done in every aspect, great finish line support

Great course, friendly people, good finish

Loved it. Great marathon experience! Love that it started at 6 for us out of towners!

Everything

I enjoyed so many different aspects...the course, the volunteers, the community's generosity and support, and how organized everything was. It has set the bar for marathons in my book.

Overall it was well organized. The area is beautiful and the city is charming. The course was fine, faster than I expected. The weather was wonderful.

Race was extremely well organized, volunteers were excellent, and I was very impressed by the community support. Also the number of bathrooms at the start and on the course. Overall one of the best races that i've run!

Route; volunteers, fans/spectators; starting times; finish line, shirt, medal

Great organization, never had to wait more than 5 minutes for a bathroom, fun finish line and accomadations post-finish

The race was impeccably organized. The course was well marked and beautiful, showing runners the best parts of the area. The full offered as much scenery as the half, and even some better scenery in the early miles. The finish line was well marked, well coordinated--I didn't have to wander all over on sore legs to find food/my bag. The staff and volunteers were EVERYWHERE, so I never felt uninformed/confused about what was going on. Water stops were well planned, and I didn't feel like the half marathon "got more support" than the full--often a problem in other races. Fantastic race, great community experience, and the stellar organization and efforts of the race directors enabled me to enjoy the race even more. The entertainment at the expo was also great. THANK YOU!!!!

Everything!

results were given at the end

Very well organized, beautiful route, a great first half marathon for me to always remember.

Very well organized event! Love that so many people helped make the event such a success!

beautiful scenery, organized from start to finish, great food, nice people, funny bus driver, plenty of toilets (thank you!)

I ran a rock n roll Marathon in Las Vegas, spent 150 dollars on entry and had the worst experience I have ever had and I have been racing for over 30 years in multiple venues and states - by comparison, the Missoula Marathon is a whole town experience with support like crazy including our hotel who not only shuttled us to the start and finish for no additional charge, but provided us with an early morning breakfast, as well. photos were provided race times and ranking provided - the volunteers at the aide station remained at the stations to service the runners, despite rising temperatures, it was organized from start to finish and as a runner I felt safe, taken care of and valued.

Late packet pick-up option at MSO Hub on Saturday night.

Excellent course. Well organized. Well run aid stations. Good crowd participation.

WELL ORGANIZED, WELL STOCKED WATER/GATERADE...AND EARLY START, ABLE TO GO BACK TO HOTEL ROOM BEFORE CHECK OUT TIME.

It was very well organized. Friendly workers. Course was well marked. I really enjoyed the run from frenchtown into Missoula.

the volunteer and the organization. you guys promoted fun!! it was everywhere. my cousin ran and he is 13. you announced him before the race. it meant the world!

It was a wonderful experience and very well organized!!!

Lots of volunteers, well organized, liked the free photos and immediate on site individual results printout, free BEER, lots of toilets on the course. :)

the best part of the missoula marathon is the fun and exciting atmosphere by the community and the people involved the the event

Weather, Starting 6 miles of half marathon is pretty

The challenge to run a 1/2 marathon again.

extremely well organized. throngs of happy volunteers. i took advantage of every sprinkler or hose sprayer available.

Shirt was cool, lots of support, well organized

Great course. Nice medal.

Love the atmosphere, location, price and time of the year it is held.

Very well organized, very nice medal, great shirts, great eats after the race, course itself, cheery volunteers, etc.

Well organized. Great community backing. Great course, excellent post race goodies.

Great support of volunteers.. One of the best organized races I have been to. Love the food / and course and shirts- medals..the list goes on.

Great course wonderful finish.

I love Missoula. The people are fantastic. I love that people are out all along the route cheering for you and running sprinklers to cool you off and everything.

views on the course

Great event!! Well organized. Fun course. Great volunteers!! Loved the atmosphere!!

I thoroughly enjoyed the race and the support from the community was amazing. The attention to detail was noticeable from the race shirts to the medals to the support stands and food after the race.

I loved the atmosphere and the people involved with the race.

I like the course and people are very friendly both staff and runners. The whole dynamics of getting up early and running at 6:00 in the morning is very satisfying, but then again I do some of my best training at 5:00 in the morning. I like having a sound system at the starting line and having entertainment and information available.

I live in Germany with my husband, and we were home on leave. My husband's family is from Montana and the view and scenery is beautiful. The weather was amazing. I will definitely do the marathon again when we move back to the states.

The course was beautiful and the volunteers were great. The race was very easy to navigate for visitors. I was also impressed with the organization of the buses to the start. I also loved the design of the finisher's medal.

Wanted to visit this part of country and add to 50 states marathon list

The number of aid stations, the availability of gel and Gatorade was nice so I did not have to pack any nutrition. The people cheering along the way, the scenery was beautiful, there was no uneven terrain to worry about, it was well-marked, my pacer was right on track. I really enjoyed my time running and afterwards. The food (and free beer) at the end were awesome!

It fucking rocked!

Friendly volunteers

I like the course, shirts (better than 2010), the small town feel with big race organization skills.

Course was terrific. Free pictures a plus. Setup and Staff all excellent.

Great organization! Wonderful course, and great volunteers.

Gatorade/water combination at the water stations.

The Marathon Relay

The course was beautiful - very scenic. The volunteers at water stops were excellent. Good support from neighborhoods that we ran through. Race shirts were nice. Beer at the end was excellent. Transportation to start line was excellent. Fireworks were nice. Good pacers.

Lovely town, easy access to the race, easy shuttle service

Very well organized with a nice route for the Marathon. Liked the finish line the best, just wish it would have come a little quicker!!:) Getting our bags back to the finish was well coordinated.

very organized, fun atmosphere, great setting, and heavy community involvement.

I really liked the flat course. That is much better than a bunch of hills.

The most organized race that I have been in! Event volunteers at start/finish and aid stations were amazing. Availability of restrooms was great! Every detail was thought out well in advance and it is clear that this race was organized by runners. The community support was awesome! Can't think of a more beautiful place to do a run than Missoula!

Pleasant people, up staff, location and facilities, race course overall organization outstanding. The Kids marathon was a GREAT idea and also well done.

The organization, everything went smooth, it is a fun weekend

Race itself was very well organized with aid stations and restrooms. Community support and volunteers were incredible. Signage was great.

It was very well organized and accommodating plus the course was beautiful!

Beautiful course, no hills in half marathon, festive atmosphere/

Loved the community!

Great course. Weather was perfect, and no mosquitoes along the Bitterroot river! All of the event staff and volunteers were great - polite and helpful.

The community support. This was a very well organized race. The aid stations were wonderful.

We were able to switch to the early start to avoid the very warm weather. Loved that residents turned on sprinklers, handed out popcicles and ice.

You did another great job this year, and the medals, were the best. Great design. A true Montana race simble. I have feelers out regarding a nomination for medal of the year through the Marathon & Beyond magazine for their contest. I hope this is ok.

The medal. as always, the distance,

The Marathon Maniacs were out in force! The people of Missoula and the volunteers were AWESOME!

I found the neighbours of Missoula to be quite supportive, especially putting out their water sprinklers on the road for the runners to cool down. It was wonderful seeing community spirit, i.e. high school football players and other organisations volunteering at aid stations. The food at the finish line was yummy, but I could not find where to get frozen popsicles. The free photo was great, and the free beer also! Fireworks announcing the time to the race, and the start gun was fun and great for a deaf person to know.

Everything. The community really comes out to cheer all runners! It is so wonderful. The scenery is breathtaking! It was very organized from registering, communicating-via email, day before, morning or (getting on the bus was very organized-I never felt unsure of where I was to be. The post race food-awesome! Please tell your community thank you for all the cheers, music and signs. I, i'm sure among other, are trying to conserve energy to thank each one as I went by, but I wanted to give each and everyone a big hug for their cheers

Overall organization was excellent, including aid station, signage, cheering people, etc. The course was also very friendly for runners.

location (scenic) & organization & course itself

I loved the schwag. Great medal, very unique. The organization was awesome, and being able to print your results immediately is awesome. No wonder you guys are getting such good reviews and a good reputation.
great organization and course!! Thank you!

The scenic run was amazing. The people along the route were awesome as well.

The manageable size, the beautiful route, the small town atmosphere

Well organized, a great course, and the run was at a very advantageous time of day.

Size, location, organization.

It was my 50 state for the 50 state marathon club and race organizers gave me bib # 50! The beer run was fun also! Being able to get your splits printed from the race timers...very cool!

Saying I RAN A MARATHON, The volunteers were unbelievable

The marathon seem very well organized. I liked the Missoula weather. Missoula does not have the extreme humidity that we have in Iowa. I also liked the early start time. It enabled me to finish before it got too hot.

Very nice area. Race was very well run.

organization on race morning was excellent - both at start line and finish

The people, organization of all things, volunteers, community involvement and beautiful course. And the BEST Race Director!! Loved each of his FaceBook messages!!!!!!

The community and volunteers were amazing!! Great energy and beautiful course!! Loved the fireworks and the shuttles run by our hotel was on time and professional. Loved it!! Only complaint... Gatorade seemed too strong. My stomach was upset all day but could have been from something else. Will be back next year!!

I've run the 1/2 two times and the full 4 times. Just keeps getting better. I really like the medals and shirts from the last two years. The after race food variety was great. Loved the watermelon.

I loved the fireworks at the start, all the volunteers, the grand piano, everything.

crowd, org and helpers

So well organized! And I never had to wait long for the bathroom :-)

The post race food and the setting

I like almost everything about this race. I also have noticed that the website is better than in the past. Another thing was the efficient way that the finish line leads into the food area for finishers, and then directly to the bag pick-up this year. Well done.

Great course, great volunteers.

Transportation to the race start was quick and streamlined. The finish over the bridge, and the balloon arch made it fun.

It was really organized and well run!!! You all did a great job. Thank you it made my experience even better!

The community is very supportive.

This was the best half-marathon race. It was an awesome experience. I loved everything about the race from the fireworks at the starting point, the aid stations, the community's support ie. guy playing the grand piano, family with popsicles, water sprinklers by area residents. It was a pleasant surprise to receive delicious food at the end of the race with drinks. Love the race medal and the ability to input all of my race info on the back was a plus. Love the race shirt and gear bag too!! So thankful for the free photos from the race. Overall a memorable experience and I can't wait to do it again next year. :))

I can't say enough good things! The course was awesome, the event was so well organized, and the volunteers were so supportive.

it was well organized, the staff was excellent, very encouraging

Great organization. Great people. Amazing scenery - love the course!!

It was in a beautiful setting and very flat. The race was well organized.

Everything! :)

Volunteer staff was tops. Support from neighborhoods was so much fun. Beauty of course was spectacular starting out on 1/2 marathon.

friendly people well organized good food time of start free shirt, free food, free beer, free photo...well...probably not free:)

bus organization was wonderful. Number of porta potties was good. fireworks show was great. Start time was a bit early for those not in the time zone but worth the effort. course was good. plenty of water stops. Shirt was good. medal good. after food very good.

It was my first half marathon and the first time I had ever run 13.1 miles without walking. I attribute this to the

The route was very scenic and I really enjoyed it

GREAT STAFF!

Community support was amazing. It also felt very organized, if I had a question there was always an answer that made sense.

My 3rd Missoula Marathon....definitely worth the 6.5 hr drive to and from

The volunteers were great. The support from the community while running on the course was so helpful and appreciated. It was organized well, I never felt out of place.

Friendly volunteers. Lots of volunteers. Food at end of race. Free coffee at start of race. Perfect start time. Gorgeous course. Having my name announced at end of race. Great job of announcer at end of race. Did I say Friendly volunteers? Free beer at end of race. I will return...you all do a GREAT job!!!

I liked the amount of water stations during the race, that kept me hydrated and led me to get a personal best! I also liked the excitement and amount of people at the finish. The course was beautiful and the volunteers were great.

Well organized, beautiful route, good variety of vendors, complimentary picture, festive atmosphere

The Expo was very nice. The buses were amazing! The aid stations were not only friendly but were organized. The coffee at the buses was a nice touch. The Pianist was excellent! The free Picture! The Free Beer! The medal is the best in my collection! Food after the race was as good as bigger events.

Very well organized and easy to manipulate in order to pick up packets and prepare! Enjoyed the experience AGAIN! Thanks so much!

Everything- beautiful course, great support (I'm slow & usually, at other races, the gels run out at aid stations before I get to them - but not at Missoula!), point to point, weather, supportive residents (leaving their sprinklers on even if they weren't around :)), smaller group of participants (not too crowded with racers), number of potties at start!! (lines were not unbearable)

It was a gorgeous run, with amazing support (water/gatorade stations). Well priced.

The course was well supported with water/Gatorade and energetic volunteers. The course was beautiful and the finishers medal was one of the best I have received. And the Popsicles were awesome.

It was very well organized, Colleen Smith went out of her way to deliver our race packages to our hotel since we came in very late Sat. night. The end of the race was wonderful, beautiful balloons, food, and drink. The people cheering were awesome. I loved the man playing the piano along the race, that was great.

It is SOOOO well organized! Thank you-- I can tell runners put this on. And I appreciate that you aren't charging so much money just because you can. I can afford pretty much any marathon, but have found myself boycotting the for-profit ones that are charging an arm and a leg-- I need those for running.

The whole event was great. The volunteers did an excellent job. The community involvement was outstanding. The registration process was smooth, and the post-race amenities were excellent.

My husband I ran the half with our 18 year old son. my husband ran half marathons YEARS ago. my son & I have never run any race so have nothing to compare this run to but we all had a fantastic experience. our son "loved the whole atmosphere" & is hooked & we plan to run again next year. family from seattle were cheering us on - they're runners & triathletes - my sister-in-law works for team in training so has seen 100's of races & all were very impressed with everything. they would have run if it weren't for an injury and a pregnancy in the 7th month
beautiful scenery at the start of the half.

Awesome course, well organized, great staff.

1) Liked the early start at 6 a.m. 2) Loved the popsicles at the race end. 3) ANYTHING TO BEAT THE HEAT

Excellent race course, well organized. Easy check in. Fireworks were a nice touch. This is my 3rd time over for the race. My husband and I enjoy the weekend getaway in your beautiful state.

The city itself and the support of all the local residents.

Great volunteers, support from spectators, beauty of course

A very well organized race, great volunteers, great overall experience.

Well organized. Great volunteer/ support staff. Great price. Course was great too. A little too much zig zagging through town but you have to get the miles somehow I guess.

Well organized. Prompt email response from the race director. Scenic Nice course Starts early

The inspiration and kindness throughout the race.

Shirts, staff, facebook administrator

The area is great and course is scenic!

Everything. Fantastic event.

great course, well organized, had a great time THE FREE BEER

great amenities small race, not crowded...could go my pace without crowds great t shirt, medal, age group award nice EXPO ongoing communication through FB! beautiful course, great weather crowd support used a pacer this year....excellent pacers for 3:20 group

i love the course...i am originally from msl and now live in CO. i have run many half-marathons and this course is definitely one of the most beautiful. it's my 3rd time running it and i have lucked out each time with the weather...always has been a gorgeous summer day in msl!

The friendly attitude of everyone at the race. (Volunteers, spectators and other runners)

Organization and friendliness of staff

Organization was superb! Couldn't be a better Race Director or more gorgeous course.

This was my first half marathon, however I have participated in several shorter races in the spokane, wa area for the last few years. This was by far the most enjoyable race I have experienced to date. From registration to check in clear through to the finish line I have not a single complaint! Check in was quick and seamless, aid/water/restroom stations along the route were well timed and plentiful. The volunteers as well as fellow racers were extremely helpful and friendly. My husband and I have always loved Missoula but you guys have given us a reason to return every July. A huge Thank You for making my first 1/2 marathon AMAZING!!!

Race was well organized. Post race photos. Gear bags well organized.

Packet pickup on Saturday was smooth and efficient. I also liked race bag drop off and pickup.

Everything. The advance e-mail notices were helpful, the web site was informational, the hotel we stayed at was very accommodating to runners (even served breakfast at 4 a.m.) and the race course / support is the best anywhere, from the volunteers to the police traffic support. This was the most enjoyable run I've ever had. The miles just flew by because I was so occupied taking in everything around me.

The first 2.5 miles of the 1/2

The people along the course were very friendly and encouraging. The volunteers handing out water, etc. were great, and the those kind families handing out popsicles, ice cubes, slices of oranges, playing music were awesome! Good pictures of participants.

Great organization

I have run races in denver and bozeman, I was nervous about the course being too hot.....but LOVED it..... Would like for next year to stay closer to the finish than start, so I don't know if you block off rooms in the holiday inn.

I was surprised about the downhill nature of the half marathon, it made for a fairly easy race. I was surprised by how quick the race day transportation was and enjoyed the chance to experience Missoula first hand.

Beautiful course, lots of great volunteers, driving distance from my home. Fireworks were impressive.

The course was beautiful and it felt good having community members cheering along the way. The grand piano was great! :)

Well Organized, beautiful race course, friendly people

I love how organized your marathon is every year. This was my 3rd year and I must admit it is one of my all time favorites!!

How the whole community surrounding the course seemed to be involved and supportive. Everything was also very accommodating and easy to follow for first time marathoners

Everything. It is a good Boston qualifier.

THE PEOPLE including the race participants, volunteer help, and local residents along the race course.

Location. Route

The event was well organized, clean and had many volunteers with smiles on their faces.

Gorgeous course and no hills!

Great t-shirts this year! I also liked the timing chips - being able to get your results at the race on a handy sticker that I could stick to the back of my race bib; the medal was GREAT this year; the virtual race bag (I liked that I didn't have to throw anything away). Free photos. All the locals who cheered us on :)

It drew a lot of runners from outside of Missoula and that element adds to a lot of story telling and knowledge sharing about future marathons and locations. Montanas were great people to hang with.

the announcers at the finishing line...

I love the course, the volunteers and the spectators.

The medals were cool. Very happy that the T's were not white or black, I have a ton of white T's and I HATE black T's. July can be hot but it gives me a close marathon to run

Well organized and I loved the route

It was very organized!

Beautiful weather, great spectators. Great water stops.

Everything. It was a very pleasant experience. Great food at the end,even though I couldn't eat. The volunteers were so friendly and helpful. Everyone was great .

The route, the volunteers, the community support

Liked everything. Told a few people from Alberta and they came too! The route is wonderful, rural, trees, hobby farms, the people, bathrooms, aid stations, the staff, really it is amazing. Ran many half marathons and full marathons, and this is my favourite. Oh and the great t.shirt, AND the super bag. The food at the end, the picture, the farmers' market. You deserve a gold medal for the all organization. Fabulous idea to leave early, as it is so hot later on. Please please do not change a thing, you have mastered a fabulous event. Want to come back for many more years.

It's a nice race!

Well organized, friendly, and fun!

I really liked the ability to print out the race times after the race. Also I really like the free photo.

Volunteers and community feel. It's s special weekend. Liked that 5kyou was added.

Everything was great. The event staff, pre ans post race were very good

The scenic course was great, getting to and on the correct shuttle was easy, the community was amazing with all their sprinklers and thoughtfulness towards the runners. The number of aid stations was astonishing and wonderful.

The community was so supportive of all racers. I have participated in many races of varying distances and I have never seen a community so supportive of people running through their streets! The event was so organized which takes a lot of stress off of participants. Oh and what a beautiful course! Thank you so much for all of your hard work! Can't wait to see you next year!

Great organization and community involvement/support! Way to go Missoula!

I LOVED the beginning of the course!

love the course/scenery, beautiful weather, fun finish line at the bridge, expo/farmer's market, great downtown, THE MEDAL!

Well organized. Plenty of water/gatorade stands.

Scenery/location

Everything

Course was excellent and volunteer support/traffic management outstanding

I love the way the whole community comes out and participates. I was a spectator the two races before cheering on my husband. After back surgery four months ago I finally felt like I might be able to do my first half marathon. This race was my first half. I like especially how this race is open to people who are fighting health disabilities like my back surgery and many of the others I saw run it against their odds also. I loved the guy with the piano. I always have to go to Butterfly Herbs for my bulk coltsfoot tea.

It's great you allow walkers. This was my first 1/2 marathon and I really enjoyed it. The course was flat and temperature very pleasant. It was a "stretch goal" for me to try to finish and I the conditions made it attainable for me. The kids marathon was a great idea! My friend's child participated and all the children seemed to be very proud of their accomplishment.

it is a great run, the route is very pretty. People are great. I was happy to see kids from schools helping!

Well put together and organized. The half marathon route was a nice gradual rolling hill. Water stands were perfectly spaced out and marked for water/gatorade. Transportation system was very thorough and nice free parking. The chip timing system made for stress free start delays if in line for porter potty. Fireworks at the start were fun! Great support. Great before and after expo in caras park. The Alpine therapy was a bonus for a consult on an old injury solution. Chip timing results. Location SUPREME! Beat the heat with the early start.

Great route and time of day! Expo was nice as well

Part along the river. Lots of turns. Well supported.

Well run. Like that it starts so early.

Very well done. Very professional. Great course to run

The end of race maze was much improved over 2011 (especially bag pick up being level instead of down at Caras Park).

Fireworks at the start are a nice touch. Really like that the race starts at 6am, avoiding heat. My wife enjoyed the text athlete tracking.

Everything was perfect. Well organized, plenty of aid stations, great food post race

Loved the weather and the SHADE on the course!!

The friendly people, helpful and appreciative volunteers, scenery were all outstanding. After the race we took an "Ice Bath" in the river in Rattle snake forest followed by a drive to Glacier National Park. There is so much to see in the area that this makes the ideal destination. If I had another day, Yellowstone would be my next stop.

The constant updates from race organizers was the best part leading up to the event. The 1/2 marathon course was well marked with lots of support (both moral and material). The course showcases some of the great neighborhoods in Missoula and the finish area is very memorable.

A lot of water stations, good organization of bus and gear drop off, availability of getting race time and place, free pictures, adequate porta potties.

Extremely well-organized. Also, the enthusiasm of the volunteers as well as the abundance of bathrooms and aid stations.

The volunteers were terrific - very helpful and friendly.

I really liked the course, how organized it was, the people working the event were so nice.

Great course and crowd. Good support for racers. Free race photos are a definite plus too!

So efficient & great course.

Extremely well organized. Shuttles were prompt and efficient. Great selection of food after the race.

The volunteers, all the activities, involvement of the community, willingness of race director to make accommodations for a late start-got off the bus to late to start when I had planned, celebrities present-all of the aid stations, people checking on runners on the course, porta potties

Well organized. Can't wait until next year

I liked that it was small, well-supported with aid stations and that all the events were easy to access.

The organization of the buses.

This half marathon was really well organized and I loved the local support

Everyone was very friendly. Great experience.

Well organized, good course, great food and beer at the end.

Festive finish Participation by people living along the course

Very well organized. Lots of support. Fast and pleasant course. Last day registration was very expensive for a local event.

Compare with MT marathon, Big Sky State Games, Bighorn Scenic Trail Run, Le Griz ultra etc. having said that, I will sign up early next year and I plan on returning. I had a great time. Thanks, Dan Rieland

The course is beautiful, very well set up. Loved the number of aid stations. Enjoyed the expo. The staff in the medical tent were very wonderful, post race food was great. Loved the finisher medals this year. Overall, great experience.

I loved that Missoula really came together to support the runners whether they were slow or fast, walking or running. Loved the support at the water stations and everyone out cheering us on! The piano man was awesome!!

the course was well marked and well staffed

lots of water on the course, much needed and appreciated!

the start time

I love the expo being part of the farmers market, I loved the course, I loved the friendly volunteers, I loved the city, I loved all the effort to be green

Open to all abilities of runners and walkers.

I absolutely loved the expo the day before the marathon. There was so much information, friendly staff and a great atmosphere. The community was incredible! The people were so supportive and encouraging! Loved it!

First 15-18 miles were beautiful. I loved the way it was a community event!

The aid stations were well stocked and staffed. I especially enjoyed that local high school sports teams were at some of the aid stations. the community involvement is also really great.

The volunteers were the BEST! The course was nice and I really enjoyed the whole event. Well Done.

I like it because it is my local marathon. I love the diversity of the runners/walkers. Some very serious a lot not so serious. They make it feel acceptable that a not serious runner like me wants to participate.

Trail was great! I just moved to Victor from Coeur d Alene and have always participated in their half marathon, but thoroughly enjoyed the Missoula one. I am planning on doing it again next year! Liked the amount of drink stations that were set up and all the support was great along the course.

Loved the volunteers...what a great support system and encouraging and ready to help. Couldn't ask for better. Well put together and the finish line was also very well organized. Great job.

Good atmosphere for beginners

Great support along the course. People encouraging us all. Loved the grand piano in the yard and all the families partying in their yards along the course. Great finisher medals.

I think u do a great job on the entire event! The water aid stations are great and the volunteers are top notch. Overall still impressed after all 3 times i have run it.

Exercising with friends and getting a big whoop whoop at the end

The event was a very good experience. If a person did not like Missoula before, they certainly would after participating. Very well organized. The community was of great support throughout the event.

Organizationally was extremely well run and made it easy on the participants to register, pick up packets and busing to start.

The finish!! The chicken signs :)

The course, finish line area.

The course was amazing. Some courses can seem longer and be boring or frustrating, but whoever mapped this one out really knows what he or she is doing!! The staff and volunteers were awesome, the events were great, this is just the best race in the nation.

The course was beautiful.

Super fun. Would love to improve my time.

Well organized. Helpful, friendly staff. Great support along the route.

great course flat

The community support, the huge expo, how organized it was, food & beer at expo & the end, opportunities to run two 5ks, kids run, location, seeing a good chunk of town while running. I'm sure I could go on and on. It was an amazing event!

The fact that it was a community event; the fireworks at the start; the finish line lined with spectators location

I really enjoyed all of the people that were out and supporting the runners and walkers from their front yards. It was a very enjoyable day! :)

landscape nice people

Very pleasant and welcoming people. Very organized and streamlined. Many activities and options. Beautiful area

Liked it a lot. This was my 86th marathon and it ranked high on my list. Very well organized, beautiful course, easy to see mile markers, great aid stations that were well stocked, good assortment of food at finish area and appreciated the shade structure with chairs to recollect myself, transportation to start easy and well organized, sprinklers through residential areas made heat tolerable, web site easy to use, liked the email updates, and great shirt and medal.

Hats off to the Missoula community and race director for putting on a top-notch event! I run many races in several states each year and this one is at the top of my list. You rocked it in all areas - your volunteers, finishers' shirts, deluxe medals, after race feast, free beer, instant photos and results, refreshing after race showers, scenic courses, beautiful weather, sufficient water/fuel stations. . . . Thank you Missoula!

It was an amazing atmosphere!

I love Missoula! It is such a beautiful course. This year my husband ran the full, I ran the half and our two sons ran the kids marathon. We all had a wonderful time!

I've completed many marathons in several states and this one is the BEST! • many friendly and helpful volunteers • beautiful early morning course with lots of water/fuel stations • top notch Expo, finish line feast, medals, t shirts, photos, beer • ALL finishers' names in next day's Missoula newspaper • kudos to race director and Missoula running community!

Where do I begin! I was so very impressed with the communication and organization right from the beginning after I registered. Actually, the website that showed the virtual route and info prior to that was even wonderful! I was so very impressed by the pre-event correspondence, the ease of package pick up, the parking, shuttles, support from the community, and complete organization of the entire event. I plan on returning next year with both daughters, my husband, and anyone else I can recruit! The post race festivities was awesome oh my, just everything was a blast and full of energy, accomodation, and organization. I commend each of you for this. I also had a students from Georgia's parents who also ran the full Marathon.

The transportation was awesome. Everything moved so smoothly. The route was fantastic. The support and facilities during the run was brilliant. I was so overwhelmed by the volunteer support; the local people were so gracious. I never expected to be serenaded by a grand piano, bongo drums, sprinklers, a brass ensemble, and morning coffee drinkers! What fun! Food and support at finish so welcomed! Oh last but not least, what a brilliant medal!

The excitement and the encouragement from the locals as well as the course.

I love running through the forest and along the river! Finishing downtown is awesome too.

The course is beautiful. It was well organized at the start and finish lines. The aid stations were well done with adequate supplies and friendly volunteers. The finish line was well organized. The on-line communication before and after the race is good. Overall, a very great experience.

Very well organized. Friendly staff.

Loved the availability of water stations and the cup sizes Loved the sprinklers throughout the run Loved the encouraging/funny running signs Loved the impromptu musicians

Loved the availability of water stations and the cup sizes Loved the sprinklers throughout the run Loved the encouraging/funny running signs Loved the impromptu musicians

It was my first marathon, but not my first race & was such a beautiful course. The staff & organization was incredible.

the organization the volunteers the community with their sprinklers! the hot women the watermelon popsicles! the free race photo the details results 'receipt'

Please read the Facebook posts. It was a well run marathon. I chose it because of the location. I wanted to run a marathon in the west as part of a family vacation. We found this race and planned our trip around it.

gender specific shirts, cool medals, fireworks at the start, scenic course, lots of aid, great food and shelter at the finish, incredible volunteers, great expo location (like a big party), free pictures!!, free local beer, finish line, the wonderful community! One of the best marathons I have run!! Thanks for the great 5k that my family got to participate in (shirts and medals were cool)!

Great community, well organized for runners and family.

Volunteers giving direction at the turns, 6am start time, mile markers.

Very friendly staff and participants. The route was very scenic and well-marked.

I liked the many water stops - loved the cowboy on the side of the road cheering us along - loved the women with the drums cheering us along, loved the panio player playing beautiful music cheering us along - fun! Great at the end finish - beautiful view of the city...running across the bridge was great - I had to go back after the race to take pictures of the finish I thought it was so impressive. I also liked the area at the finish where the staff had set up the water showers to cool us off with - great idea!! Thank you for the ICE and for the community for setting; up their sprinklers for us runners to enjoy - what a great community!

1. The race was a very good value for the cost 2. Crowd support was excellent, even for later finishers 3. Race volunteers were very friendly and knowledgeable 4. Communication was excellent (Facebook, emails, etc.) 5. The "little" things - video of the race course online, great FAQ page, fireworks at the start 6. Shuttle service and number of bathrooms available - best I have seen at a race

Frequency of water stops & porta-potties; Early start time; Ease of getting to start; Variety of scenery/surroundings during the run.

course, people

I liked how well the race was run and how nice the volunteers were. I thought that the aid stations were well done as well. I thought that the route for the half marathon was very good. It was a pretty location, and we got to see some good sights along the way. I very much appreciated how flat and lacking of hills the course was. I also really liked the shirts and the medals we received for participation.

It was all wonderful!

It was beautiful, well-organized, and an overall fun event

I was VERY impressed with how organized the bus system was getting people to the start. Also was very impressed with how many volunteers you had along the course directing traffic, handing out drinks, etc. The course (half marathon) was great - and so beautiful! I especially appreciated that you planned it to go down residential streets with lots of shade near the end.

Locals were extremely supportive - the sprinklers set up along the path were a great touch! There could have been more music along the way; some groups had radios on and that really pumped us up. The medal is AWESOME!

That was the flattest race I've ever run!

Out of the 5 marathons I have run it was the most scenic, had the best organization and support.

I loved the crowds, the atmosphere, the organization, the events leading up to the start including fireworks friendly people/volunteers; flat course that was mostly shady

special and unique touches like the fireworks; popsicles at end were great!! never saw that before lots of fluid stops and plenty of toilets along the way so many kind people putting sprinklers out (even on the mountain which meant using their wells) reasonable price even close to race announcing names at finish line volunteers :) esp. from Hellgate and Sentinel; good newspaper coverage festive setup for crossing mats at half-way point (like a mini-finish)

Support - volunteers, spectators, etc were fantastic! Friendly, supportive, and encouraging. Beautiful race course, great sound system at the end, liked the victory stand to have nice photos with those we ran with, and was helpful that the orthopedic tent was right next to the finish line. Was awesome that our race photos were free.

Course was beautiful. Small town feel.

Very organized & friendly group of people... BEAUTIFUL course... Loved the medals...

Mile Markers, Small home town feel of the race, and the course. Course Volunteers. Community Support on the course, and at the Finish. Awesome, please tell the community they are appreciated.

I did the half marathon. At mile 3.25, there was a guy in a tux playing "Chariots of Fire" on a grand piano he had carted outside in his yard. That was awesome!

The gear bags at the finish were in a much more convenient location this year.

Carnival atmosphere; every volunteer was so friendly; the hundreds of volunteers that showed up to help out at every crossing, water station, relay point; all the Missoula police officers and assistants at the major crossings - they were all so friendly, waving, smiling, wishing us luck; the residents of Missoula who were all so friendly along the route - clapping, yelling encouragement, providing sprinklers to keep us cool. The drivers who waited patiently for us to cross the busy streets... all waving, smiling, honking encouragement. It was FANTASTIC. I will never forget the experience. Oh, you can't take credit for the weather. God did that. But he was smiling down on all of us July 8th... the weather was PERFECT.

It was set up well, the course was great. Everyone was very helpful.

Great support from community

Good weather Great community support

It is a great opportunity to get prepared for physically and the route and time of the race when it is cooler is perfect

I loved everything, you did a great job. Course was fantastic, people are the friendliest I have seen. Excellent, keep up the good work

Organization and the beautiful landscape of the area.

The course is beautiful. I liked the number of aid stations (especially with the heat) The virtual race bag was ingenious!

I've run many over the years and MSO is the BOMB! Course, venue, registration, kids run and post race are top notch. No wonder it was chosen one of the best.

Finishing

It was a great course with great scenery. It was very well organized as well. The grand piano player was nice too.

Always like the Missoula ambiance and the people. Finishing in downtown is awesome. I also thought you did a much better job with the bag check pickup compared to last year. I was able to get my bag right away. And of course nothing beats a beer at 8 am after a 13 mile run!

Nice course, well marked.

beautiful and well organized. great community involvement. great shirts and metals.

The course was fantastic with plenty of water stops along the way, especially toward the end when the temperature started to creep up. The scenery was wonderful and made the run very enjoyable. Plus, I had a PR by over 12 minutes (but I might attribute that to some good training)!

I ran the full marathon and I really thought the beginning of the course was beautiful. It was nice then towards the end to run in town and hear people cheering for you.

Beautiful course, in a part of the country I probably never would have visited if not for the marathon. Excellent race logistics and volunteers/water stations. Really appreciated the folks who set up sprinklers for us to run through; it got warm during the second half.

It was very well run.

course/people

I ran the half, I had planned to run the full but was having a hard time recovering from Spring marathon. I thought the half was great, I can't wait to come back and run the full. It was great to be able to print out my results after the race, I haven't seen that feature at any of the races on the East Coast.

The energy, community involvement, organization (facebook postings especially), the beauty of the route, etc. It was a wonderful experience overall!! I want to make it an annual trip.

Great course, very well organized (mile markers were dead on!), expo was in a good spot, and we really enjoyed the town of Missoula.

This was my 11th half marathon in under a year in several states. It was by far my favorite! I felt like everyone was so helpful and so many great details were thought of. I loved the announcer man at the start and the fireworks. Then on the course the spectators were so nice. Even though it wasn't crazy hot, the sprinklers were awesome, I hit everyone! What was not to like about the course, it was fantastic!!! I actually had my best half time to date! So as you can see I had no complaints, I thought it was terrific all around, oh except my hubby didn't see me finish, haha! :o)

Everything

Great Volunteer group. Great Attitude Much better job on locating bags after the race this year. Bus time to start was very good. On time and ready to go.

Thought the volunteers and race organizers were amazing. I have ran a lot of marathons(33) in several states and I'd say this race's organization was in my top 5 favorite! Great job.

Excellent organization of event. Nice attention to detail. Loved the pre-race fireworks, music, porta-potties, announcer (half-marathon), post-race food, photos, beer ;). Awesome volunteers and community support. Pat yourselves on the back for a job well-done

Beautiful course great community support great organization.

Everything

This was my first marathon and everyone was very friendly. The pacer that I followed was very knowledgeable about the race and his job and did it very well. He kept tabs on us first timers and was very encouraging. The water and gatorade stations were very well placed. The course was well marked and patrolled when there was traffic to contend with. Many, many residents supplied water sprinklers on the course and that was awesome!

The only topic of improvement I remember referencing in earlier years was to make the mile markers larger to be seen (two years ago you were still using the small 'feet/legs' as mile indicators which were often missed by runners. This year I was happy to see large markers on the course. Thank you for that improvement.

The organization and support of the community is amazing. Also, having an award you didn't have to eat or drink before leaving town was a nice change. The beer run was fun although Jeff Galloway wasn't much of a factor - but I wouldn't be attracted by him anyway. The team/individual picture opportunity is really great as well as the finisher medal. Everything is top notch.

Love fireworks, kids marathon, gels, detail to time of day for best weather, course

Just about everything. I ran the Half. It's why I came back. I liked the addition of the 5K on Saturday. And I love the horse shoe age group award and medal. And I LOVE the fit of the shirts. I'm from NY and run with a group here and get so many compliments on the Missoula shirt. And since I ran the 5K and the Half I have two! the orange was a bit much, but not enough to complain about.

The way the community came out and supported all of the runners and walkers.

Loved the event, very well organized! I loved the amount of aid stations.

Everything is always wonderful with this event!

Loved the route, perfect for a first timer, like myself.

Loved that the photos were free to download, that is a great perk. Also thought all the different pace groups were great as well. All the homeowners on the route that put out sprinklers were wonderful. Really was a great race. Loved everything about it, even the beautiful scenery running up that hill!

The number of aid stations was AWESOME - the crowd support with the sprinklers was GREAT

EVERYTHING!!!!!!!!!!

The course was fantastic. Loved the fans out there with hoses. Everyone was very kind and helpful. I have run many races and this was one of the best

Gorgeous course, flat course, really well organized

scenery

The early start for us slow runners (and walkers). The good support on the course. The good food at the finish.

I loved the course—very beautiful!!!

Very well organized. Video of the finish -wow! Very friendly volunteers. The start time. Food served at finish (not just fruit and bagels). Water at aid stations was icy cold.

I have run over 20 marathons including Boston, NY, Chicago, etc., HANDS DOWN ... this is the best race I have ever attended. People were welcoming, awards and t-shirts were nice. The size is just right, it's not too big, but not too small and the course is beautiful. The entire town comes out for it, a great addition to Missoula. I went to school at the UofM, graduated in '95 and am committed to making this an annual event since I had such a good time.

I loved the expo. I loved the community involvement, the fact that there were sprinklers going quite frequently was awesome! It really helped to stay cool on a day that was definitely out of my comfort level for running. The start area was great, plenty of restrooms (if you were there early enough). Restrooms along the course were great and the perfect number, never waited more than a minute for a restroom when I did wait (had some troubles early with the stomach).

Small town atmosphere and great shops.

Great people. Seemed well organized. Fun race.

I loved how well organized it was! The aid stations, water stops and volunteers were outstanding. The medals were great and so was the layout of the finish area. The mile markers were easy to spot too. I was so impressed with the amount of volunteers helping with the race, it really made the entire marathon run smoothly.

Laid back feel. Support and volunteers were amazing. Well organized made it stress free for the runners. Attention to details that matter, and not ones that don't. Medals were cool.

Beautiful scenery, relatively flat course, well organized, best food at the end I've ever had.

Weather; size of event - not too big or small - runner friendly ... early starting time makes sense ...

It was a great race - well organized and a nice course.

Very organized. The number of water stations. The people and volunteers.

A great route/tour of the area; the amazing amount of crowd support; all of the things to do surrounding the event; a great destination race; wonderful, smiling volunteers and police; race organization and attention to detail (like the fireworks and the cannon to start); a fantastic finishing spot (on a bridge with cheering fans on both sides); a distinctive medal

Nice area, nice people participating, nice group of volunteers, and the people that live in Missoula and Montana as a group were friendly, interesting and engaging.

It was well organized. Loved the fireworks before the race. There were plenty of buses to get us to the start in a timely manner. The scenery was beautiful, crowd support was great and the signage was funny and distracting in a good way. The whole community came out to support us and the people were very kind. Appreciated the abundant sprinklers. Loved the little kids who handed out ice cubes, gummy bears and popsicles. The volunteers were great. And the piano player made my day!! The whole race was one to remember. What a beautiful state!

I like the new system for picking up drop bags at the end. Also the bags were awesome. ALL of the volunteers were great!! The spectators were great. Love the route being by the river to start. Love the free finisher photo! I think this is one of the most organized races I have ever attended. Love this run, and will continue to participate in it.

It was very well-organized, beautiful course (we is the Half). Much cooler temps than home (Texas). Nice walk able downtown. Great medals, and nice quality shirt though I'm not a fan of the bright orange. The maroon of the U of M would have been better for us. I love that we can access our race photos for free! Missoula is a place that we Texans don't know much about and it is a bit of work to get there, but we now highly recommend it to our friends, running or otherwise! People in the city were very friendly everywhere!

Small town feel. The medals were to die for, loved them. Best 5K medal I have ever gotten.

It was amazing... Very organized - loved it

Great Route

everything!!!! Spectators were so nice

i liked the early start and the route

Very well organized, festive, community supported. Beautiful course and fun attitude. An excellent race overall.

Extremely well organized, good sponsors, lots of aid stations, and spectators with sprinklers aimed into the street

I like the t-shirt and finisher's medal and how there were shades in the finish area so when we were sitting down eating the refreshments, the sun didn't blaze at us. i like the early morning start and how the bus takes us to the start area. the countryside course is nice. the staff is friendly at the race and at the expo. i also like how the neighbors especially in the second half of the race had sprinklers out so runners can run through them to cool down. Good race fee!!

I can not say enough good things about this race. The area is just beautiful. The people were so friendly. The town is very clean and a nice place to visit. The race course was just awesome. I even loved the one big hill we had in the middle of the course. The RD and staff did such a great job. The volunteers at the aid stations and at the finish very friendly and accommodating. The crowd support in town and even out in the countryside was great. The buses that delivered us to the start, were not overcrowded and they were on time. The people at the aid stations were very organized, with gatorade first and then water, at every aid station. You always knew what was waiting for you at the next station.

It was very well organized. There were ample bathrooms, the route was clearly marked, and there were many helpful volunteers to answer questions.

Well thought out and organized race. The whole town seems to have adopted the race. The beer run was fun. Having so many water sprinklers on course was awesome.

Beautiful flat course, fun start with fireworks, great support along the route, loved the guy in a tux playing grand piano, delicious gourmet food from Good Food Store after race, wonderful Brooks race shirt, bag, LOVE LOVE the horseshoe medal!! Also the expo with live entertainment, beer & food was great, vendors were great. The volunteers were great. LOVED the finish line with the crowds on both sides of the bridge. One of my FAVORITE race experiences ever!!! I have done 10 half marathons and a couple marathons. Next year I'll do the marathon if it's not too hot.

We love the Missoula marathon. We will be back every year.

Friendly community, volunteers, support, expo

The community involvement was so inspirational along the course. Sprinklers, otter pops, the grand piano, signs on the telephone poles helped me along the way. The course was mostly shaded which even at 7am was very appreciated. The organization of the gear bag drop off and pickup was really good. I loved getting my race results right after the race.

Expo and the Caras Park Pavilion were excellent. Great organization. Beautiful course. Fun finish area. Finish area food was awesome.

I would rate the overall course and planning as excellent. The transportation from downtown to the starting point was very well planned, and the general atmosphere before the start was friendly and relaxed. Even the bus driver was friendly and outgoing, and welcomed everyone to Montana as we exited the bus. I also appreciated the cannon and fireworks at the start, both of which were a new experience. Overall spectators were friendly and there were just enough for support. Placement of the finish on the bridge was a great choice and created a beautiful finish along the river and the city in the background. Really nice choice.

I've run 17 marathons and this may be my favorite. The beautiful course. Plentiful aid stations and everyone set up exactly the same. Every aid station had port-a-pottys. Ending on the Higgins bridge was cool. The free post race photos. Fireworks at the start. I loved the 6:00 am start.

good placement of water and aid stations, great crowd and signage

The course was GORGEOUS. Ninety percent of the event staff were superb. Also, the gear drop-off and pick-up was EXCELLENT. No lines due to the great design of bags lined up by number. Thanks for that!!

Very well organized. Fantastic Facebook page and quick answers to questions.

The organization, the friendliness of the volunteers, the awesome medal, the nicely fitting tech shirt and all the hoses and sprinklers local residents brought out to help runners "beat the heat"

The support from volunteers and neighborhoods was incredible before, during and after the race. The event felt celebratory the whole way and Missoula did a fantastic job of welcoming visitors. That's why so many people want to come back!! The city of Missoula also was prepared for many extra people. LOVED the drop bags being right at the race finish so we didn't have to tromp down the stairs!!! Thanks. glad that there was still food for the slower finishers.

The volunteers and spectators were great- I felt like they were ready and willing to help me with anything I might need. I was especially impressed with the many unofficial stations that had been set up by the spectators- frequent sprinklers, coolers of ice, gummy bears, bottled water, lemonade, and the constant support they offered to the runners and walkers. The free food from The Good Food Store was wonderful, and I love the medal design!

Support of community along the way; camaraderie of participants; and especially the route

Easy registration (no extra fees) Very organized, awesome volunteers, great staff, simply outstanding post race food and beverage options. The course itself is gorgeous, please don't change it. We LOVE coming to Missoula. You guys rock !!

Numerous bathrooms, friendly volunteers, easy shuttles and parking, great route, good water stations
Very friendly, scenic, well organized.

The half marathon course was scenic and well supported. Good organization with transportation to the start line. Packet pickup was well organized.

Beautiful course with great competition

Perfect Wx, energized crowd, fun course

I loved the beginning of the race. The scenery was beautiful. I enjoyed that most of the race was shaded too. The medals were AWESOME!

I liked the course, the organization of the events leading up to the run and the finish. I was impressed by the volunteers and their encouragement & participation.

It so was well organized, the town was lovely, there was so much to do, the race was not so large that you felt lost; expo was great
LOVED it!!

It was the most beautiful run I have ever done. It was very well organized too.

The course is great and there are plenty of aid stations.

Course; Port-a-potty at every water stop; nice shirt and medal; great finish on the bridge; fireworks at the start; efficient shuttles; free photos at finish

Top to bottom, an outstanding experience. Pros: unprecedented communication and access ahead of time on all events, weather, and general banter about the race. great value at \$75. typically great weather, as was the case this year. surprise at the start that was really cool. I won't spoil it. super community / crowd support. Super! great finishing stretch. course elevation profile is perfect - fast, but not boring. great medal. I never care about these things, but this one really is cool. great options for hotels within walking distance of the bus pick-up and finish line.

Great course; great community; excellent pre and post race management; good shirts; terrific availability of water, sports drink, AND gel! Course well marked and excellent mileage markers; food afterwards was superb; medal was my best looking yet; access to good meal and beer after race; good communication before race; moving the race bag pick up to its new location was fantastic...top quality experience.

Very fun, great website

Loved the scenery of the 1/2 marathon. People of Missoula living along the route were very friendly and supportive. Very organized at the end of the race.

I loved the people that came out to support the runners. It was amazing to see.

Beautiful course, variety of activities over the weekend, great finish over the bridge, good organization, and great venue in the park for awards ceremony and massages.

Very organized, beautiful course and weather

Really loved the course, the video on the website does not do it justice.

Community support

The size of the race, the number of port-o-potties, fireworks, the course, the fact that there were oranges available on the course even for the back of pack. The plentiful food at the end, the medal, the course support, the sprinklers all over the place, the well-marked mile markers, the lovely aid stations.

Location, organization, course, aid stations, local support

Everything! the people that ran, the support of the community and the beautiful course

Nice course, lots of potty stops, clear flags to let you know how far you have run

Great course, very scenic! Great organization at each aid station. Loved the support from all the people along the course, cheering or setting out sprinklers. It felt like the town of Missoula was happy to have us there. Volunteers were very nice and helpful. Loved the runners only finish area, showers were much appreciated. Loved the free photo op. The best race I have even been in, will be back next year and I've already told many runner friends about it :)

The aid stations along the run. The volunteers who rode bikes with the runners. All of them were very encouraging and helped me get through the marathon is a positive attitude.

I really liked the early (6AM) start - keep that!

The expo was easy to get to, the course was very pretty, and the post race food was great, especially the popsicles!

This was a very well-organized event with a lot of aid stations and port-a-potties.

I liked how well everything ran and was organized. I enjoyed everything from the coffee getting on the buses, the amount of porta potties at the start, as well as the fireworks at the starting line. I also liked how well each mile was marked.

I loved the events the day before, my wife ran the 5k and my 3 kids ran the kids' marathon after tracking their miles up to the race day. I also liked that there were aid stations every two miles and they all had port potties!

Drop-dead gorgeous scenery and incredible volunteers!!

This was my first half marathon so I don't have much to compare it to, but I loved the energy of the volunteers. They were very positive and supportive. I also LOVED the half course it was so beautiful. The organization of the event was also fantastic.

It was a pretty marathon, and I enjoyed the fireworks; volunteers; and the friendliness of the local people.

The course is fabulous and the volunteers are awesome!! Loved the gear bags this year!

The shirts, gear bag, free photo, # of water stations

The course and how smoothly everything was executed.

weather and organization

The wonderful hospitality of staff and volunteers. I felt that they had prepared superbly and took wonderful care of me.

EVERYTHING. This was my first full marathon experience (I have run 1/2 marathons in other locations) and the organization was 150%. You guys were on top of everything. There were so many water/aid stations...that really helped. THANK YOU! Especially the table with the oranges and gummi bears. That really saved my bacon. I know it was more the missoulians living along the route, but I loved how they provided sprinklers for us to cool off.

This was my first half marathon and I loved the support of the crowd and volunteers! I felt like a winner from the start to finish!!! You all did a wonderful time creating a wonderful atmosphere!

The fireworks every 15 minutes letting us know that race time was nearing.

I liked the organization of the race and the fireworks at the beginning were a nice touch. The finish downtown was great! I liked the change of scenery to go up into the forest a bit. I liked the announcing of all the winners ... it's fun. The spectators and their sprinklers were nice.

I hadn't ran much since last year's half marathon, but being surrounded by people excited about running helped motivate me to the finish line nonetheless.

Very well organized. Excellent volunteers. Good time for race start. Great expos, before and after.

SO organized! Registration pick-up was a breeze. The Kids Marathon was a hoot as always. I saw more spectators with replenishment on the course this year...ice twice was a Godsend. The popsicles too were wonderful. The oranges saved my life :)

The event staff were very friendly. Route was well mapped. Loved all the encouragement we got along the way from bystanders and staff. I REALLY appreciate that there were people to help the last stragglers finish their runs. I am somewhat acquainted with the last 2 girls in the marathon and I am so impressed with the support they received. I'm telling everyone that is the best part of the whole weekend for me. Thank you for helping them, encouraging them, and keeping all of us safe!

I like the organization of the marathon, the people, the staffing and all the support. The route is pretty and not too strenuous.

I liked the man who played the piano, and the scenic view on "The Big Flat" street, and also visiting Missoula Course. People. Snacks after. The medals. The shirts and gear bag.

The community was great!! They support the marathon and are very active in cheering on the participants. I also enjoyed the "teams" at the aid stations. They were outstanding. The last thing is the finish line. It was awesome to finish on the bridge!! You do a wonderful job!!

Friendly people, pretty course, well-organized.

I love the volunteers and the local people who came out to support the racers.

It was beautiful scenery... and I loved that the course went down a lot of shady streets. I also loved that the locals all had their sprinklers spraying onto the street to help cool us down.

The course is beautiful. The community seems to come out and support the runners. This was a great first race for our friends that joined us. The aid stations were more than adequate and the volunteers were helpful and friendly.

friendly town, only marathon I know of that you get a free beer when finished.

It was very well organized, had tons of friendly and helpful volunteers.

Very well organized race, logistics at the start were excellent. Post-race food was good (please keep 'Good Food'). Water coolers/dispensers at expo and the post-race were great. Finish line experience is good.

It was well organized and everybody was friendly and encouraging. I loved the medal and that there was a female tech shirt and a male tech shirt. Great food at the end of the race and happy that there were many stations with water and hydration during the race. Very friendly bikers and people cheering.

I liked the small town feel. Everyone was very friendly.

I loved the venue, the volunteers, the spectators, my fellow participants, and the race organization crew!

It was a great course and I loved how efficient the check-in process was. I also loved the 5K course.

LOVED IT! The amount of water/gatorade tables was fabulous. The residents that put out sprinklers was awesome. Such a fun race to participate in! Can't wait for next year.

I loved the energy from the different neighborhoods. Having people root you on is fantastic!!! I also appreciated all the stands along the way. They were truly lifesavers. Wonderful job planning the event. It was a great experience!!!

Great volunteer support, great course. I liked the small town feel.

6am start is wonderful. Not sure I'd run in July in MT otherwise. I like that the course goes through town. I grew up in Missoula and the course is a nice way to come visit.

Atmosphere was great. I really liked seeing the community support throughout the whole run.

Vic Mortimer went out of his way to accommodate my schedule with my packet pick-up. He returned my emails promptly and was friendly and helpful. The course was great and the residents along the course were so encouraging. I loved this experience.

The course, the volunteers, the expo the day before, the finish tent and all the great food, the fireworks & cannon at the start line - all were superb!

The staff was friendly, organized & when I finished I felt like a champion.

Beautiful course, well-organized, plenty of volunteers at aid stations and crucial areas of the course (turns, etc), variety of volunteers (I thought it was cool that football teams, hockey teams, etc were running some of the water/gatorade tables).

It was fun!

The atmosphere and the course. It was a nice run that was both in the woods ("nature") and the city. I loved seeing signs on the way and the various diversions (concert piano, bands, etc).

I think this year's medal was the nicest one yet. Anything beats the "scary runner dude" year.

I love that you are driven out to the start and you just come straight back without having to turn around and repeat your steps. Going through the residential streets is so cool. People are so friendly. Just love coming to this marathon.

Small marathon. Well organized. Plenty of aid stations. Nice post-race facilities.

Love all the support from volunteers and neighborhoods along the way.

Loved the support of fans, the route was beautiful and I really appreciated the music that was playing for us at certain points.

The community involvement with their signs, creativity, support, music and sprinkler systems. - The beginning of the half marathon in Blue Mountain (GORGEOUS!). - All of the energetic volunteers :)

The race course made the time fly by. All of the support staff was very helpful and encouraging.

Missoula is such a great town! Friendly, accommodating, and easy going! The course was beautiful and just right for a first timer.

Everything the venue how friendly, support, they made me feel great! Like a champion!!

Good communication prior to event, great organization of buses to get to start line, lots of bathrooms, fun broadcast at start line, lots of great volunteers at water stops, terrific finish line crowds, good flow/easy to get through finish area...loved overhearing participants/attendees who are not from the area say how much they enjoyed the event!

The Volunteers, the runners, the town are amazing. I love this place. I did the Half Marathon last year and from that race I told myself that the 2012 Missoula Marathon will be my first Marthon ever. Wonderful!

Volunteers were AWESOME!!!! They were so very helpful and motivating. The sports groups were great to see volunteering were fun to see. Because of them and how much they helped my friend and I along the way, we're planning on volunteering at the ultra marathon in MT City in Aug. Hopefully we'll be as motivating to others as the Missoula ones were for us! THANK YOU!

The feeling of community...neighborhoods with sprinklers and people's encouragement.

fun, organized and runner friendly

Well organized following the marathons.

It was very well organized like the people along the rout, and the volunteers were amazing, course was nice, I liked the 6am start.

Lovely, flat course; friendly and helpful race staff and volunteers; enthusiastic runners; signs marking the miles; FANTASTIC encouragement from spectators

It all works so smoothly, despite the logistical challenges. good job!

I loved the course, the people and the fireworks.

The race was fantastic, very well organized, very beautiful run. The community turnout was exceptional and invigorating. The race was in a word, superb. I ran the half marathon, and plan on being a regular participant.

I have ran in a few marathons/half marathons and the Missoula Marathon is by far the most organized and stress free one I have done. It is a great atmosphere and all of the volunteers are awesome.

Excellent course and support services. The med staff was fantastic. They were very professional and helped me immensely.

Thanks again to the med tent personnel!

I loved the town. I loved the course. It was gorgeous. You had fabulous volunteers and their were plenty of aid stations.

Wonderful. I loved the people along the course and how they had their sprinklers running for us, had signs for us and even had coolers of ice available. I loved the medals, the shirts and the gear bags. I thought the expo was fun as well. I loved the cold showers available at the end and the spread of food/fuel at the end. I also thought the commentators at the end were wonderful. He congratulated me on my first marathon and even commented that I had the best cheering section around. It was really personal and made it feel really special. The start time was perfect. I love that it is early.

The course and the LOVE!!!

The course is beautiful & even though it is siper early..best time to do it! :-))let

great weather, great crowd

Loved everything about the race!! Thank you!

I had a blast. This was my first time to the Missoula Marathon, and I didn't have anything to compare it to. It was very well organized. I felt taken care of and all my questions were answered. I was never concerned for my safety or well being -- even though I was by myself in a new town I felt like I could always find someone to help out if I needed it. LOVED the community involvement. The grand piano and sprinklers take the cake. Just awesome all around. Felt very supported from every direction.

The placement of aid stations and bathrooms. And the people! Everyone was so friendly and genuinely helpful.

The community support was fantastic. I appreciated all the residents out in their yards, cheering us on, allowing their sprinklers to cool us off, and offering snacks. The aid station volunteers were efficient and cheerful. The other runners were polite and enthusiastic.

Everything, the people were great on and off the course, the exp the shuttles were great also. thanks for the great bags and bag drop.os before and after were fun, and the course was marvelous. I appreciated all of the water stations, especially at the end.

I love the community participation! Running accross Higgins bridge is a great finish and its so inspiring. The race is very well organized and gets better every year. The volunteers are super knowledgable and in all the right spots. Fireworks at the starting line is so exciting! The effort the planning committee has put into this race is clearly evident from the shuttle system to the path runners are funneled into after the finishline through photos, food, bag pick up and festival at Caras Park (genius!). Food was great and the free beer doesn't hurt either. Best race in Montana!

I loved the fireworks at the start. I loved the t-shirt and that you have a women's cut and sizes. I like the finish area right downtown. It was a pretty course with a lot of shade, plenty of aid stations and nice that home owners along the way put out sprinklers. I loved the free photos at the end.And the free beer!

The expo being smaller and outside was wonderful. it was also very nice to be right by the river.

I enjoyed it so much. It was extremely organized, awesome volunteers, and easy to make a switch from full to half!

It was a wonderful first year experience. The community support really impressed me. It was so nice to see all the volunteers and community members cheering on the runners. I was very motivated by the atmosphere.

Beautiful course, well organized, no long line for pictures this year, friendly people, food and drink provided after the race. Pretty much everything.

Beautiful course

several things were unique to me that I hadn't seen at other races. By the way, I ran the half. The cannon and fireworks at the start were awesome! The course was fast, allowing me to pr. I also loved the mini shower after the finish. Medals were cool. Well run event. I will be back!

Nice course well organized well fitting good quality shirt

I loved the course, it was so fast! I loved the spirit of the community throughout the course. It was an absolutely fantastic morning.

Location, scenery, friendliness, support on course, cooling hosepipes, finish line + party, free photos, prizes

I liked the diversity of the course and the atmosphere in general. All the people were really nice and super encouraging.

Fast check in, timing chips, and photos. Volunteers were fabulous! Loved the sprinklers, gummy bears, pacers, and marked aid stations. Very smooth race and very well put together I will definitely come back!

I loved that the aid stations were maned by different age groups, high school teams, and church groups. I felt the people of missoula came out and gave great support to all of the runners.

The route is beautiful. The people along the route were friendly and many put out their hoses since it was hot which was very thoughtful. I loved the medals! Thank you for the excellent availability of the porta potties and that they were clean and well stocked with toilet paper. So thankful that it was at 6am before the heat of the day!! Really liked the tech shirts for women because they were shaped for women. The color was not great.

Flat course. Nice people. Well organized. Great conditions, especially for the half.

EVERYTHING!!!!!!

Logistically simple.

Good value, friendly volunteers, spectators in neighborhoods close to finish

Beautiful course with great people

Three outstanding things about the race: (1) it was extremely well organized; very professional; (2) the half marathon course was beautiful: flat, fast, scenic, beside the river and then through neighborhoods: terrific! and (3) the volunteer helpers at the water stations: they were all ages, helpful, courteous, made this a real fun event. (even one of the uniformed policemen at a street crossing recognized me (and me him) and slapped me on the back as I struggled onward!) FUN

it started early enough in the morning to avoid the intense heat. Within walking distance of our motel. Many spectators cheering you along the way. That was VERY encouraging and helpful. So appreciated of the positive comments.

beautiful route at the beginning of the 1/2 marathon

I ran the 1/2 M and enjoyed the shade and beauty of the route. The volunteers were wonderful! Cheerful and helpful. The shirts are great. The red and black bags are so handy. We really appreciated having the bus pick us up at the hotel. Fireworks at the start were exciting. The finish medals are wonderful souvenirs. Everything seemed to move along smoothly. Your coordination was perfect. Thank you for a great time!!

This is what I posted on the Marathon Maniacs website: My first marathon early-start provided major psychological boost knowing Jonathan would be catching up to me - and he did as we predicted after mile 19. Must-do race: point-to-point, nice fire-works show at both starts, scenic (country highway with gorgeous views), flat (one major hill immediately after half), fabulous local support (lawn sprinklers galore, ice chests, cowboy on a horse - Wilford Brimley? - classicist on a baby grand piano!, cheering families), good water at all stops, oranges later in course, downhill finish, nice medal, great RD with the perfect attitude, kind weather - 60's & low 70's even with a forecasted high of 95. Large MManiac presence (The Prez, Steven Yee, came around me, called out "Rocket Man", snapped my pic, and kept on running!). Jacob, Janie, & Jonathan greeted me at finish. Not sure this race can be improved.

I loved the route and the volunteers and the police you had was spectacular. All there help made the race so nice.

Awesome!

I ran the first one and awards and results were a bit disorganized (usually happens on a first run...) You have come a LONG way! This was a huge event, and I believe everything was handled well. I really liked the printouts of my personal results at the Competitive Timing booth. And, the finish across the bridge was fantastic! The crowds were amazing - second only to the women of Wellsley. I kept hearing them cheer GO Marathoner while I was working thru the half-ers; they were cheering so loud, I kept looking back to see if someone was coming up on me! The volunteers at the aid stations were great, and so were the half-marathoners I passed. We all traded a little encouragement. And, the 3 hour pace group was great! They came up on me at mile 20, and really got me back into it! Oh, and enjoyed the free p.t. exam on Saturday.

I like that the volunteer run out and give you some Gu or gel before you hit the water. It saves time.

the route was the best part! Scenic and easy! the location - Missoula is great!

The scenery and the FLAT course!!! and of course the good old Montana people!!

The venue, the people, and especially the volunteers were amazing. The race itself was great, and the pre and post race were well organized and fun for the participants. Post race was also great for spectators and families.

I liked the location and how the last few miles are run through town. I liked how the entire course is accessible for spectators to get to and cheer. Also the finish is set up very nicely, and the expo the day before is run very smoothly. The shuttles to the start lines are very helpful also.

I thought it was very well organized and the course was fast.

The race was well supported with adequate water stops.

the course is very easy for the 1/2 marathon water stops were available

Great course, like the shirts, good instructions, early start time to avoid heat. Lots of aid stations.

Everything was just great.

The community was amazing, at each aid station I gained motivation through all the volunteers. There was a great turnout and it was not too competitive of an atmosphere.

It was very well organized, the route was great, the residents were awesome supporting everyone. I like that one can enter the race right up to race day. The race is pretty low cost as far as races go. I think for the entry fee you provide a lot of bang for the buck. Such as shirt, great medal, transportation and post-race food. Also there were plenty of water stops on the course. It is so beautiful, well run and wonderful. I love everything about it! The ease of the transport, the start line fireworks, the aid stations, the ease in getting bag after, the great refreshments after! I loved the course. I am originally from Missoula so to get to come back and run all the gorgeous places Missoula has to offer was awesome. I also really liked the amount of bathrooms and water stations that were available. The bathrooms were very clean too and that was much appreciated. I also really liked the chip time print out, I have ran several Rock N Roll's and never have I seen that. Super cool! I really enjoyed the course and start times. Due to heat issues, an early start time is essential. I felt the support staff along the route was tremendous and it seems like the community has really embraced this event. Good atmosphere!

The support from the marathon crew as well as the public large mile marker signs great help at the aid stations As always, it was wonderful and I have no complaints. Volunteers were awesome. Sprinklers were awesome. Seemed very organized, and when I had a question I asked the facebook page and got a very quick response. Very positive experience. Oh, food and drink at the end was great too. Aid stations were very kind and encouraging. Race shirt. The water stations were well staffed, some very small children were a little dangerous, stepping out too far. Great sprinklers and music from spectators! Great course, wonderful spectators/supporters, and very helpful and friendly volunteers Great atmosphere and community to host such an event in. Hats off to Missoula and Run Wild Missoula. On a specific note nice to see what may have been more porta potties near the McClay Bridge. Didn't have to wait for more than 5 minutes like last year. I liked that the bag pick up was in the runner area this year. This made it much easier. The course continues to be great. There also seemed to be more water tables and porta-potties available which was great. This was my very first half marathon and I really have to say, I absolutely LOVED all the support and encouragement I felt all along the way. I loved the feeling of complete exhilaration as I crossed the starting line in a sea of so many people but nothing could have ever prepared me for the awesome experience it was as I crossed that finish line with complete strangers (and lots and lots of them) totally encouraging me every step of the way!!! What an amazing day!!!

the community involvement. the neighbors with music, treats and encouraging us The runners, volunteers, vendors, the energy!! It was GREAT!!! My first 1/2!!! So I was just taking it all in! Great race. Great course. Well organized. I really enjoyed the outdoor expo. Great scenery. Awesome volunteers! Great route. Very well organized. Finish line was great. Everything about it! I had a great experience! Really enjoyed the friendly volunteers, spectators. The race route was also nice, scenic. the people the views the emphasis on health support going to kids the support of the residents in the neighborhoods we passed through it was just all amazing!!!! This is my favorite event of all time! It is The Race to do and I look forward to doing it every year (I've done four). Summer in Missoula is the best! The course! Great race that is well organized. love the course and people People, people, people!!! Very organized bus system; great entertainment/water and snacks while waiting for the start of the marathon; pacers were AWESOME; very clean and well marked course; fans and volunteers were great; perfect number of aid stations Great course, great volunteers, great community support.

Loved the community support! The volunteers - official and unofficial -- were awesome. Police were excellent -- supportive, helpful and friendly. Course was lovely -- shady and cool and pretty! The emails from the marathon team and the Facebook postings were really fun :)

Piano player in the gazebo

fun inspirational and great community participation

LOL! The fact that I finished! Seeing the 'Finish' sign was an awesome experience! Because I have a bone spur and plantar fasciitis, in my left heel, my doctor advised me to not enter...but like the fool I am, I didn't take his advice....even though it was a painful journey, I'm glad I entered and finished. Hopefully, next year I'll be in better condition and will be able to enter, minus the heel problems I endured in this year's race. Life is short and as some one said of life: 'Life is like a river. You can not touch the same water twice, because the flow of water that has passed will never pass that way again...so, enjoy every moment of life, you will never have that moment again.'

The Half Marathon Route starting at Blue Mountain, Maclay Flats just magical. Love the community support, involvement and participation, the sprinklers, the fireworks, the woman's v neck tee shirt design, the balloons, the polite volunteers, the encouraging policeman at Gerald and 6th, the little kids giving free high fives, the berry popsciles at the food tent, the man playing the baby grand piano in the pasture, the band at Bonner Park
such a nice atmosphere

Very well organized race with great expo the day before and aid stations during the race. Adding the 5K race the day before was great, as well as, having Jeff Galloway present. The backpacks were great for bags and the medals were very nicely designed. High quality event! Thanks.

The people: volunteers, fellow participants, the spectators.

Everything was great. You are so well prepared and seem to think of everything down to the safety pins for the bibs!

Very organized and very clean. Overall, a well ran event.

Very well organized, super friendly staff/volunteers, great course, great food at the end.

Very very organized and well run. Ahhahhah punny

It was very well organized. The course was beautiful!! The people in their driveways cheering us on was fun.

The people on the course- sprinklers, water stops, enthusiasm

I loved the Half Marathon because it was well organized on a beautiful course. The organizers and volunteers did a wonderful job.

Course, volunteers, finish line, race bags and metals, referee photos for free and access to photos on line!!! Thank you!

Organized well!

community support (volunteers, cheerers, sprinklers), oranges at Bestwick aid station, great send off at the start, recognition at finish line, beautiful medal, your concern for safety and well-being on the route

I liked the festive quality of the half marathon. So many happy people.

Awesome event. The organization, friendliness of people and the course for the half were outstanding. I felt like I was running the Boston Marathon again with the amount of local residents cheering us on all along the course. Couldn't believe how many aid stations were set up and the great volunteers. We are going to train for the full marathon next year and would highly recommend the event to all of our running friends in the Portland/Seattle area.

I liked the course, the simplicity of the event for me and my family (we're from Hamilton), the timing and the timing of the start, especially.

good support by the volunteers

fun fans

I ran the half, and it was the most organized road run I have ever participated in. I found the shuttle and bag drop to be extremely efficient and organized - there was no back up which I have previously experienced in other runs. I also thought the truck taking bags back to the finish "faster" was a nice touch!

always well organized and I really like how supportive the people that live along the route are of the race.

Good access to water; supporters on the streets; sprinklers on the street

It was very well organized and everything went very smoothly. There was a lot of support for the runners along the way and the race course was very nice and easy to run.

The Missoula Half Marathon is one of the best half marathons I have done. It is very well organized and I always have fun participating in it.

Catching up with old friends from the days I lived in Missoula

Beautiful course and scenery. Perfect amount of participants. Very well organized and supported by locals. It's my new favorite race!

1) My first marathon, and I didn't die. Finished even! 2) The course was excellent. The hill was mild, the fresh cut hay scent was neat, the abandoned pulp mill was cool, fire works for each bus & start were a nice touch. 3) Just enough porta-potties at the beginning 4) The July time sets it apart from other runs 5) The 6 AM start time which allowed for finishing before it got too hot

As always, the volunteers were fantastic. Moving the drop bags next to the finish line was much appreciated. The sport drink tasted much better this year than last year.

The volunteers were one of my favorite parts-- everyone at the aids stations were amazing. The overall community-feeling of the event made me feel welcomed and not intimidated, and I would recommend it to anyone (the half or the full). Also, the pacers were great and couldn't have been friendlier!!

Terrific organization, great volunteers, many aid stations (and restrooms!), supportive & friendly community.

The fireworks to get the race started, the beauty of the course, the volunteers ... a job very well done. All the wonderful volunteers ... they were all so cheerful and encouraging. I really liked at mile 24-ish, a gentleman had frozen wash clothes that he was offering. That was wonderful!!

Community and volunteer support was phenomenal

Great, well organized race. Mile markers were right on.

Fun, lots of support

I participated in the training group with Run Wild Missoula and Runner's Edge. It was

I enjoy the time of year. Even though it is super warm out, it is nice having an early July marathon to train for to keep you in shape of fall marathons. I also enjoy seeing all of the livestock and the sunrise.

The aid stations were great (and nice to see the high school kids!), the police officers directing traffic were so nice, the spectators and sprinklers were amazing, the finish line is fantastic. It's a wonderful event - the people who organize it obviously put in a great deal of work, and they're incredibly helpful and friendly. I always worry that as the event gets bigger it will lose its charm and turn into another huge generic race, but it hasn't - it's a big event but still personal. I love that locals are winning and setting course records. A big thanks to Vic for helping me with my registration switcheroo!

I walked, and really appreciated the 5 am start. The volunteers and residents were very supportive and enthusiastic, even 5 - 6 hours into the race. Really appreciated having the porta potties available every 2 miles. Also appreciate the Runners Edge for their ongoing and generous support of the event and runners. This was not my first marathon, but it was by far the friendliest one I've been in. Over a dozen runners that passed made the effort to encourage slower runners and walkers.

99.99% of everything!

i liked the organization, clear communication about the need to know race info, the friendly volunteers. The safety personnel on bikes who checked on my well being and of course our beautiful scenery

Overall, everything was fine, it went pretty smoothly.

the people

I was impressed by all the volunteers who did an excellent job at every point of the race. The water stops were excellent, and so were all the folks at the finish line. It was a benefit to see people playing music, etc. along the route.

It was a very well-organized event, and very community-oriented. Loved that there were families/spectators at almost all points along the course to cheer everyone on.

It was a great event. Friendly people and much bigger crowds than when I did it 4 years ago.

Loved it! Well done Missoula.

The energy of the people and especially the volunteers! What an amazing community Missoula is!

Very organized, great event staff and volunteers, everyone very helpful.

Course.

AMAZING volunteers. Such a well organized event. I had virtually NO wait times at any of the Expo stuff. SUPER responsive staff when I had problems with my registration. Just incredibly incredibly organized, and being from Missoula I just felt like I was part of something much bigger than myself. Anders ROCKS and his entire personality shone through all the volunteer staff.

Route was pretty, volunteers were enthusiastic, well organized, community participation was great.

It's great event. We have participated for 3 years and enjoy it every time.

How much the community supported everyone!

The route, the volunteers, concessions, post race expo.

Everything!! The atmosphere, the support of the community and the residents along the way, and the organization and logistics of everything was top notch.

Everything-great race!

Everything! This was so well organized!

Lots of porta potties!! Yippee!! Also all the sprinklers/hoses/misters along the course. And the t-shirts. Awesome colors this year. Unique. Also loved the aid station volunteers, especially the football teams and ice hockey ones. Awesome, unique medals this year too. Loved the bag pick-up closer to the finish.

The outpouring of support from the community - neighbors with sprinklers out, kids with candy and drinks. Great fervor and excitement made it even more fun!

the support from people living along the route. police officers helping with traffic control AND encouraging race participants

Awww, I love this race... so well organized, so fun and so many familiar faces.

The marathon is always well planned and I feel like things go very smoothly. The volunteers are great!

Everything was great as far as I'm concerned. Great job folks, please keep it up.

Very well organized. Nice Volunteers, fun atmosphere

I ran the half marathon. The course is very beautiful, especially the first part along the river and hillside. There are a lot of aid/water stations.

Lots of good information online ahead of time. Good bus system to start- same as last year, no problem. Seemed like maybe more port-a-pots at start of 1/2 than last year, so that was good (shorter lines). Good aid stations. My race bag was missing a # and I was very pleased to see that the race directors had posted to facebook- kept me from worrying about it or driving back down to the Expo. I labeled it myself with tape the night before and had no problems at all.

It is a great event and very organized.

awesome

It is well organized, the participants are courteous and thoughtful, the volunteers and supporters were awesome, the course is great, there were a perfect number of aid stations/toilets, loved the fireworks at the start, basically everything!

The tremendous camaraderie surrounding the event.

It's a great motivator all year long to stay in (reasonable) shape.

I liked the diversity of people and positive, encouraging spirit of the race.

Race day itself was great. Bus was quick, pre-race announcer was good (although his mike kept cutting out), loved the fireworks. The route was clear, the mile markers easy to see, liked the signs along the way. Wonderful volunteers and spectators.

It's just such a beautiful route. You are never bored while running. The weather is always perfect in the early morning in Missoula for running.

LOVE the people & the route of the half marathon

EVERYTHING- THE COURSE, THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS, THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, THE NUMBER OF AID STATIONS.

The improved quality of the metals and shirts

Always a great event - thank you, volunteers!

the volunteers were amazing!! The community participation (sprinklers) were amazing!!

The organization. The large number of volunteers and the high level of helpfulness and friendliness of all of the volunteers i encountered. Everything was very efficient with the registration, bag pick up, and buses to the event. The race was well supported with bathrooms, water, etc. Also, I love the beautiful route!

I'm a half marathon walker and I appreciate that walkers are included. I liked everything about the event--the ease of registering, the ease of picking up packets and the celebration surrounding it. It is so well coordinated and everyone associated with it is sooo friendly and helpful. It's an amazing feeling to be a part of it! The "fans" are wonderful and deserve a pat on the back for being out there and cheering everyone on. Someone was handing out popsicles this year and that was a huge hit with me - what a treat!

Outstanding course! Spectators were top notch!

This was my first 1/2 marathon. It was an incredible experience! So much fun from start to finish. Fireworks, fun announcers, guided warm-up, scenic route, live music, awesome volunteers, Good Foods food tent, pictures, pre-race pep talk and advice from Jeff Galloway, encouraging signs along the route, shuttles...my goodness, so many thoughtful touches.

The organizational skills of all the volunteers, truly amazing The course is great and infinitely better than the first course. We could be voted No1 AGAIN by Runners World

It was wonderful and my first half marathon ever, I just started running in January and my baby girl is 11 months old now!

Starting At 6am

I loved the instant results printout kiosk!!! That was superb. I have never seen that available at any other race. The free instant photo's, and a free microbrew from Big Sky at the end of the race was also a wonderful added benefit. I also enjoyed that there were other events leading up to race day, such as the beer run on Friday evening. The organizers did a superb job of putting it all together. Expo was great as well. The energy of all involved is incredible, and the fact that the community was able to recruit so many volunteers was exceptional. This is clearly the way a race needs to be organized and run.

Atmosphere. Route

Great event. Very organized. Lots of porta potties. Like that the route is quite varied. Love that the Marathon and 1/2 Marathon embraces all types of runners, walkers and run/walkers. Everyone feels welcome and included. Love the community support.

The officials and volunteers were very organized, well informed, and assertive. The Half course was amazing and a great PR course. I love the text message that was sent at the end of the race, alerting family that I finished.

Almost everything. I run it almost every year.

Participants were friendly and supportive. The volunteers were a great crew. Seeing people along route cheer and provide snacks or ice. The water sprinklers were great. I like the medals' design. I liked the mile markers so I could know how much further to the finish line.

I like the amount of people running, sometimes these races can be too crowded making it difficult to run.

Enthusiastic community support, lots of course volunteers. Plenty of race officials on bikes throughout the course. I like the finish line and the expo location. I also love being a part of what has become the very best event in Missoula of any kind.

The volunteers at the aid stations were all amazing and full of energy. The full marathon course was really nice, I liked being able to look around at all the great scenery in Montana. The 3 aid stations with gels were really nice so that we did not have to carry as many with us while running.

Support, aid stations, environment!

The list is way too long. I thought the race was incredibly well organized and I love the variety of classes that RWM provided for people to train for the marathon. Even though the course was open to traffic, having all the volunteers and officers around to help keep us safe was really great. The aid stations were placed perfectly and I loved the party atmosphere that so many of them had. I never knew that a 26.2 mile race could be so much fun or such a social event.

Location, race route, water stations, medal

Pretty much everything! I've run the half every year and thoroughly enjoy it.

The fireworks at the start were an exciting & beautiful way to set the mood! All the volunteers, from the 5k and the expo on were fantastic as usual!!!! The course looked great, as the cleanup crew did a super job making our marathon course look good. The finisher medals & awards were well made & designed and perfect for a Montana marathon. Congratulations to Anders as our new race director and all his helpers for putting on an outstanding event, one our community can be truly proud of.

The volunteers were fantastic. The buses to the start were easy and quick. The set-up at the starting area was great--music, fireworks, concessions, friendly volunteers. Great crowd support. Really like the finisher's medal and the tech shirts. Aid stations were great--quick and friendly. Overall I thought it was a great event--well-organized, well-executed, and an overall great experience.

Best course I've run. I did the half. I love the course, energy, community support and timing of the event. The swag is top notch and everyone feels like a winner at the finish.

The organization of the marathon, the volunteers, the staff and the city of Missoula, make this event the best that I have ever participated in. I can't wait to do it again!

The race was very well organized - the miles and the course were visibly marked (no way to get lost), the water stations all had friendly volunteers and the sense of Missoula community was evident throughout the race.

- Scenic & beautiful first 18 miles, perfect weather - Friendly and helpful Pacers - especially the two 4-hour pacers - Aid stations well located and operated by friendly people - i took Gatorade at every one - Fruit, Powerade and tent (shade) at end

!very well orginized

1. The fans. I loved that people had their sprinklers out to spray runners or had set up their own "aid stations" (there were some adorable little girls handing out popsicles around mile 22). 2. The scenery. Gorgeous course!

99% of the race was amazing! The people, it was well organized, clean, I could go on and on!

A beautiful day to start with. Great organization and transportation set up. Awesome volunteers. Overall fun experience. Absolute everything!! It was delightful. Thank you so much!

Absolutely EVERYTHING! Great organization! Loved that you moved the 5K to Sat. Morning! Loved the shirts and the medals!

All ages...people from everywhere...free stuff ... Great food. Friendliness. ..

All good.

All the activities and the support and cheering along the way

All the different activities to involve more than just the half and full runners. The kids and 5k really got more people feeling like part of the event. The beer run is just a fun addition. The finish line is so festive and delight to see after 26.2 miles. Like the 6 am start.

All the people cheering all along the way! Very encouraging.

All the runners, spectators - great energy!! Incredibly well-organized. Very professional.

All the support from the community. Great atmosphere. The food at the end was great too. thanks tot he good food store

All the supportive and great people

All the volunteers were so helpful and there was enough staff that no need went un-met.

All the wonderful volunteers

Another great Missoula Marathon can't wait for next year!

As a Missoula resident, I appreciate how much this means to the community. It shows Missoula in a great light to people from all over the country.

atmosphere

Awesome with great community spirit

Basically everything!

Beautiful and fast course

beautiful course

Beautiful course! Easy packet pick up! Informative emails and information that made planning and preparation easy.

Beautiful course, amazing volunteers, and great aid stations! Loved the orange slices and gummy bears toward the end of the race, perfect timing!

Besides the absolutely beauty of Missoula the volunteers and pacers were awesome!!

close to home nice course done before it got hot not crowded after the first mile

coffee On main st. fireworks all the porta potties scenic course alot of encouraging spectators great food and drinks at finish and a river to cool off in THE GRAND PIANO PERFORMANCE on River Pines Rd

Community involvement/participation; positive attitude of participants, coordinators, community members; the course was pretty (especially the beginning).

Community involvment! Loved all the people who lived on the route, running sprinklers and cheering on all the runners.

Community support. Friendliness of everyone involved. I was floored. It was the best community experience I've had, by far.

Course, shirts, awards, finisher medals, pictures, fellow runners, pre-race 5k,kids race, post-race food, aid stations
course, spectators, organization, early start time, t-shirts

Crowds were great!

Directions at all points were easy to see. Helpful people. FUN!

Easy shuttle system. Fireworks. Friendliness of participants. Huge amounts of port-o-potties! Good job on that one. Great efficiency in getting off the chip once crossing the finish line. Nice event bag - very durable. Fun pre-race Expo and entertainment. Free physical therapy consults. Nice amount of aid stations. Very well organized.

Energy, enthusiasm, organized, fun

Enthusiasm of the spectators and runners. Route.

every thing was so perfect. from info about run to everything provided after run....photos..messages...food...cheering
Yeah

Everyone involved was very supportive and helpful

Everyone is very friendly

Everyone was friendly and encouraging. It was well organized. I liked how the end of the race was mostly on shady, residential streets. The food at the end was terrific with an amazing amount of choices!

Everything

Everything

Everything - Atmosphere, volunteers, supporters, organization, route, aid stations, city/county assistance, cleanliness, expo, etc.

Everything - Even better than last year, which was already phenomenal - Awesome job to all involved!!!

Everything I like the early start especially

Everything - people were very friendly and supportive; loved the community enthusiasm and the sprinklers; really well organized. The only area I could note for improvement was registration. Some of those volunteers didn't seem to be too clear on what they were supposed to be doing.

Everything was fantastic! Thanks for putting on such a wonderful event.

Everything was very well organized!

Everything went so smoothly, from parking and getting bussed out to the starting line...I only had to wait about 5 minutes, to the finish area...everything was perfect. Also loved the fireworks at the start line, that really pumped me up and made me excited to start the race.

Everything went well - good organization, nice people, great amenities. Some highlights: popsicles at the end, the piano guy, the fireworks (although I can't imagine the people who live near the starting lines appreciate that), orange slices, the fantastic volunteers... I know I'm forgetting some great aspects. Oh - Referee Photo! They're the best! It was a fun weekend and I can't wait till next year!

Everything!

EVERYTHING! I love this race. The people who put it on give their all.

Everything! Awesome race!

Everything! So much fun

Everything!! Last year was my first time running and I knew as I crossed the finish line I would be back this year. I recruited as many friends and family as possible and they all had the same experience. A friend who has run numerous marathons called it a religious experience. I love all that it represents of Missoula and am so proud to be a part of it.
everything!!! thank you for adding late packet pick-up for travelers :)

EVERYTHING!!!! Best organized race anywhere! Best shirts! Best medals! Friendliest people! Loved it! Loved it loved it!
Everything, place, organization, staff and volunteers, participants, weather, time of day you name it
Everything.
Everything.

Everything. It was user friendly. Volunteers were outstanding. The city of Missoula is very special. Folks seemed as though they really liked us being there and they love their city. Refreshing.

Everything. Well done. I didn't meet anyone who didn't love living or being in Missoula. That is a first.
everything. very organized!

everything. very well organized, mile markers were where they are supposed to be, water stops great, buses good. We stayed at DoubleTree. Super, very easy to walk to start, etc.

excellent organization wonderful and easy to follow course lots of stations and encouragement. We were a group of walkers so wonderful to be able to participate in the race!

Extremely well organized. Great Job.

Extremely well-organized, high quality race shirts and awards, kids race, 5k race the day before (Saturday morning), many water stops/aid stations, good bus transportation to start, efficient race finish, people cheering along the way, early start to avoid heat, free photos, immediate race results by punching in race number, coverage by the Missoulian, Expo next to farmers market

Fabulous volunteers along the route with plenty of watering stations.

Festive atmosphere, the feeling that it is more of an event than a competition. Extremely well organized, and a great friendly bunch of volunteers.

Finish area had a fun atmosphere...balloon arches, timing board, announcer, etc.

Finish is good, half course is good. Gear bags at end were good.

Finishing on the Higgins Street bridge.

Firework start at half marathon, the quantity of porta potties, course itself, sprinklers!, finish location and medals!

First one I have run in. The run along the river was wonderful. The neighborhoods were so welcoming.

Friday beer run, and the pacers were great.

friendly city extremely well organized clean great finish line!

friendly participants and volunteers

Friendly people, nice community feel.

Friendly staff, expo well organized, shuttle bus well organized, coffee, bananas and water available at the beginning, fireworks to send off the run, aid and porta pots available every 2 miles (very convenient), encouragement from community, hoses, sprinklers and ice along the route, (would have never made it without it) beauty of the course, (horses, mountains & rivers, unlike no other don't change it) and finally the finish is amazing coming up over the bridge, (still get goose bumps when I think about it.)

Friendly volunteers and entire town made me feel welcome. Race course was beautiful; weather was perfect.

Friendly people, well run and organized.

Fun and beautiful route, good signage, great water stops, sprinklers!

Fun event, well organized, good communication system.

Good course, nice atmosphere.

Good time of day. Course kept your mind busy. Water stations adequate.

Gorgeous, shady route and friendly volunteers.
 Great atmosphere and so much fun!
 Great atmosphere, wonderfully organized, nice energy.
 Great course, excellent organization, lots of volunteers. We also enjoyed the Run Wild Missoula training course~meeting new people and finding new running routes.
 Great course, great volunteers, adequate aid stations, chip timers are so useful
 Great course, great volunteers, great community support for runners
 Great course, well marked. Great support and aid stations!
 Great course.
 Great enthusiasm from the community along the race course. Extremely well organized event.
 Great Event Weekend for the whole family and affordable too.
 Great family environment, wonderful volunteers. Extremely organized, fun course.
 Great half marathon course. Great after race photos.
 Great people and Community!!
 Great people, organization, course, finish line, expo...
 Great route! Very organized
 great scenery great people
 Great small town vibe, efficient packet pick up
 Great supportive atmosphere, enthusiastic and encouraging volunteers at EVERY aid station, and overall great organization. I could not believe that you guys got all those thousands of gear bags back to the finish line! Overall it was a great experience that I'd love to do again!
 Great weather, and the volunteer attitudes were terrific. Good course (half marathon).
 Great weather, great views, nice course, shirts, medals, location.....
 Highly organized, excitement of the runners, course, community support, out-of-towners, Run Wild Missoula experience and support, personal experience, Missoula! Can't say enough about the organizers and volunteers. There is such a supportive, can-do spirit everywhere.
 Highly supportive of walkers.
 How well organized it was
 I appreciate that you make it an event for people of all abilities and everyone's accomplishments are celebrated...walk, run, or crawl!
 I appreciated the efforts to be more "Green" (virtual goodie bag, etc).
 I appreciated your committee counted my miles on treadmill prior to marathon and let me walk over the finish line with my assistants. It was an awesome experience that I shall never forget. Christi Forest
 I enjoyed the entire atmosphere. Everyone is super friendly and it is very well organized. The support from the Missoula community is incredible. The course is beautiful, and there is plenty of shade through out the course which was very nice. The drop bags were a great addition.
 I have never run before March 2012 as a practice. I actually finished the half which was my goal. Your staff and constant motivation made it possible.
 I like all the events leading up to the race. I love that there are so many folks from out-of-state and internationally that attend and race.
 I like how involved the community is with the race. I like how encouraging everyone is and there is such a positive energy throughout the whole experience.
 I like the fact that I could do the race.
 I like the scenery and how we go through Missoula.

I like the volunteers and the bystanders. Every year there is a great crowd and the volunteers at the beginning, at the aid stations, and at the end are helpful, supportive, and look like they are having a great time. It makes the experience more enjoyable when you are surrounded by support...even if it's from strangers! Even parking for my family to see me finish wasn't a big deal. They received information on the local news, from volunteers at the race, and were even able to park about two blocks from the finish.

I liked at the end of the race this year how we were directed down the street as opposed to fighting everyone on the stairs. Having the timing booth down below was nice as well.

I liked how friendly and positive the volunteers were to the participants.

I liked how organized it was and the course was great because at the last miles when you needed support you were in the neighborhoods with people cheering. The frequency of the aid stations was great too.

I liked just about everything except the color of the tech shirts for both the 5k and the marathon. I especially liked the design of the medal much more than last year's medal. It was very unique this year. Last year's medal was kind of boring. I do wish there had been additional GU stands for the half marathon, there was only one on the half marathon course.

I liked just about everything, was really happy with the virtual race bag, because it cut down on all the wasted paper.

I liked that it was in my home town, the sprinklers set up by people who lived along the course were wonderful, and I loved the finish on Higgins Street Bridge.

I liked that you changed the location of gear bag pick-up, good move! Good start time, great course, great volunteers at the aid stations!

I liked the camaraderie of the participants and volunteers. It was my first half marathon and I really liked how friendly and helpful everyone was with any questions that I had.

I liked the drop off system for the 1/2. My family and I did not take the bus so the side drop off was nice. The volunteers were very encouraging and motivating!

I liked the early start time, the gobs of people, and the otherwise coolness of running a race throughout the city. Also, Missoula really gets a good crowd to come out for the half; the streets were lined the whole way. Keeping the Gatorade and water separated at the aid stations was cool too.

I liked the encouragement from signs people posted. Especially the one that said (this is what you trained for.)

I liked the fact that I started 7 minutes after the gun, passed 2700 people and took fourth in the men's hand cycle division.

I liked the finish line better this year than how it was two years ago when I ran it.

I liked the number of participants. Professionalism in how the race is handled.

I liked the race course and the spirit of the overall marathon. I liked the shirt, and the baggage claim option and the concessions afterwards. I also liked how you had a cool down station/water sprinklers after the race.

I liked the route and the finish line is in a really great spot.

I liked the route and the supporters on the route.

I liked the way the race was organized, including the easy registration process, the online information about the race, especially the video of the course-that was really cool, and the option to drop your gear bag off and pick it up after the race (which was super easy and fast). I also like the frequent water stations, bathroom opportunities, and refreshments at the finish line!

I liked virtually everything. The expo was great (and I got to meet Jeff Galloway!), the course was spectacular, and the support of the community and aid stations were spot on.

I live in Missoula and loved the health benefit of the half marathon. The course was wonderful and had enough shade on a hot day. Volunteers were friendly and felt the town was behind the event. Thank you so much for the great organization.

I live in Missoula and this is a great event. The course is great. The time of year is perfect. The race is well attended and excellently staffed. I think that as long as I'm a missoulia I will either run it or volunteer! Thanks for all the hard work to those who organize this great event!

I love all the different aid stations and all the encouragement from spectators.

I love everything about this run, but I think the best part is how involved and supportive the Missoula community is...even if they're not running. I love how they put out sprinklers, how other sports teams hand out water, how the Missoulia and TV stations talk about it...not just about the winners, how people come to the finish line just to cheer...whether they know people or not. Best of all, I love feeling justified for having a beer at 9 am! :-)

I love how the whole town embraces the event. It makes you want to be part of the excitement.

I love Missoulians. It's a beautiful course.

I love the atmosphere and the course was great!

I love the course, the support of the entire city of Missoula, the uplifting atmosphere.

I love the course. Beautiful scenery.

I love the energy from the participants, the volunteers and the community who come out to root us on!

I love the entire weekend. I really liked the finish line this year. Two years ago it was different, but this year was much better

I love the excitement generated by participants, volunteers, and on-lookers. Also, getting to meet and talk to new people on the route. I like the fact that it starts early so we're done before it gets too hot.

I love the missoula marathon. I think it is well organized and I had a wonderful time.

I love the Missoula Marathon. The course is beautiful.

I love the race, the community, the fantastic people who put it together, the volunteers, the training class. I love all of it!

I loved all the Gatorade

I loved and appreciated the support of the Missoula community. It was my first marathon ever and Missoulians all along the route were so very supportive! The water sprays along the route were very thoughtful and the music and cheerleading were fantastic! Plenty of porta potties, drinks, and energy foods were very necessary.

I loved the atmosphere, the route, the great organization, the amount of potties and aid stations. The fireworks at the start, the fun medal, and lovely finishing spot!!

I loved the community support. There were people all throughout the course cheering and supporting the runners. This is the most well organized race I have participated in and will be back many years to come and telling my friends to join!

I loved the crowds cheering us all along the way. I loved the guy who plays grand piano for us by the river as we run by. I loved the frequent water drops. I loved being outrun by a guy in a gorilla suit 2 years in a row. I loved the policemen and women stopping traffic and cheering us on. I loved the sight of the bridge. I loved the well-organized finish.

I loved the energy of the participants, the people along the way and the people waiting and cheering us on at the finish line. I was overcome with emotion as I crossed the Higgins Ave. Bridge, seeing the crowd, feeling the energy--so very proud of my community.

I loved the entire event....I'm not a runner....was a new years resolution....started training about 5 months out. I've never been in any kind of race at all before.....so had no idea what to expect but WOW.....the whole event was wired.....incredible logistics and volunteers. Great, Great job by everyone behind the scenes.

I loved the excitement of the community, and their support. The trail beginning at the Peak through Blue Mountain was so beautiful. I am so proud to be a Missoulian! The organizers of this event did not miss a beat for preparation. The anticipation was created months in advance. At the end of the race, there were tears of joy everywhere! The Good Food Store provided yummy nutrition for all participants...so very organized ...and the picture taking was also very organized. This was my first time ever participating in a community activity such as this. The beauty of it all, the great feeling of accomplishment, the support from neighborhoods, encouraged me to not only walk, but DANCE as well!

I loved the experience of the race. The volunteers were motivational and helpful. I just absolutely loved everything about the race! Thank you!

I loved the fireworks at the start of the half-marathon. I really loved the course, especially the first several miles through the less-developed areas. I enjoyed hearing my name called as I crossed the finish line.

I loved the fireworks, the organization, the course, and the amazing participation of all the volunteers and people cheering us along the course!

I loved the first 15 miles running through the Big Flat area and Blue Mountain. I love the finish line on the bridge. I love the community support, especially the people who play music and have signs. Oh yeah the signs that the Missoula Marathon or RWM put out. Those were great. I also love the expo. I love that the kids get their own marathon. Overall, it's great!

I loved the organization after the race. Easy to get photos, time print out etc. Gets better each year. Loved the virtual gear bag also

I loved the volunteers and all the spectators that came out to cheer us on!

I loved training with Run Wild Missoula, I loved the participation of the community and all of the fun activities before and after. Overall a fantastic experience and I am hoping to get other runners I know from outside of MT here next year to run.

I love how organized it is and how friendly all the volunteers are. They truly are glad to be volunteering. Also I liked that there were police directing traffic. It is so nice not to have to worry about getting hit crossing the intersections

I ran the half. The majority of the race was in the shade with the latest course. I loved it.

I really enjoyed the community support along the route.

I really enjoyed the fireworks at the beginning of the race this year.

I really enjoyed the race and the ensuing reception

I really liked all the support given by the community throughout the race. There were people at the beginning at six in the morning, and people at the end all cheering us on.

I really liked how friendly the event staff was! The marathon was run in a very smooth and orderly manner. There was very little confusion!

I really liked how well it was organized. Also all the supporters and fun quotes posted around all the way to the finish line.

I really liked the shirts! Can you do Sentinel colors next year? :)

I really loved that you used technology so well to communicate (Facebook, e-mail) on a regular basis. Starting early for walkers was key to my choice in coming.

I think RWM does a great job organizing the marathon. I have now suggested changes.

I thought it was a great race - great spectators plus in tune with the runners

I thought that the organization was spectacular. Everything went very smoothly from the bus pickup to the start. Plenty of water stations and bathrooms. The after race organization was great as well.

I thought the organization and amount of volunteers was excellent. The bystanders were encouraging and appreciated, especially the Morganroth piano player.

I was impressed by the variety of people that participated, all sizes and ages. It certainly gave the event a "community feel".

I was impressed with the ease of getting our packets, the organization of getting to the start point and overall the fun surrounding the event. The participation of the people along the run and the general atmosphere.

It is a beautiful course. Early July weather was great at 0600. Smaller event size maintains a "community" feel. I was surprised to fall in love with running with handfulls of ice taken from ice chests along the route. Great gear bag system. It worked flawlessly even though I did not get a sticker, I wrote my number PBT the bag and it was in line right where it should have been.

It is a great race and well put together

It is excellent! Love the community vibe and support!

It is truly amazing what this has become in the past several years! Very well organized, and the volunteers are great! Very helpful!

It is very well organized and lots of volunteers everywhere. I like the route because it is very shady when it gets to be hotter towards the end of the race.

It is very well organized and the community support is amazing! I loved the race bags and how they were organized on Front Street. Course was clean, well marked and lots of sprinklers.

It seemed like a well runned race. The volunteers were helpful and encouraging.

It was a beautiful course with encouraging and friendly volunteers. The aid stations were awesome!

It was a great way to see most of the town in a short time. The trees in town helped shade out the sun. The fireworks at the starting line was a nice touch. The announcer at the finish line was a nice festive touch.

It was a very well organized and fun event. The staff was friendly and helpful

It was a wonderful experience. All the bathrooms and drink stands made the event very comfortable. I loved the whole thing. The event was well organized and the registration fee was appropriate for all of the food, shirts, bags and drinks along the way. I also think the community needs a big thanks for supporting the runners and walkers along the way. It was wonderful get encouragement from everyone. THANKS!

it was a wonderful experienced

It was done very well. I enjoyed it very much.

It was exciting! The energy of the crowd and the citizens in neighborhoods was wonderful. I was so surprised by the support of people all along the way. IN addition, teh marathon was extremely organized. What a great day!.

It was extremely well organized. The volunteers and spectators and participants are all fantastic. Beautiful views along the course, particularly at the start of the half. The residents along the way were so kind to put their sprinklers on!! The signs posted by friends and families were hilarious. There was plenty of water available on the course. It was an all-around positive experience!

It was fabulous. I am telling all my friends they need to run it and visit Missoula. Perfect experience in every way.

It was fantastic the course was great!

It was fun

it was great

It was great and I'd do it again for sure

It was great! Lot s of volunteers, friendly rooters along the course, very well organized.

It was just a great experience, I have participated before 2 years ago and I forgot how much fun and how great the energy is! I love that Missoula comes out to support all the runners, it definitely makes me even more proud to be from here, little kids giving out water at aid stations, Sentinel high school football, and everyone out in their yards, :) One of my favorite things was the gentleman playing his grand piano at about mile 3.5 on the half course.

It was my first marathon! The course, especially the rural portions. The volunteers were amazing..friendly, nice, helpful. Choice of water or Gatorade at all stations

It was my first one and all in all it has encouraged me to want to "Bucket List" the Boston Marathon.

It was my first race. It was fun. I loved the guy playing the piano (probably didn't have anything to do with you guys but it was awesome). Loved how friendly everyone is.

It was organized, well thought-out, traffic control was wonderful, numerous volunteers, great gels offered--and we even knew the flavors. There was also excellent coverage in the Missoulian.

It was perfect for my first marathon. Having the stations at that many places helped with the heat. Having great places to have people meet with supplies is very good as well.

It was run at the right time of day. Fun experience. Plenty of aid stations. Enough volunteers. Everyone was friendly and helpful.

It was so well organized! The course was amazing, I felt like I was in heaven.

It was the most well organized event we've ever been involved in!

It was very easy to participate in. I was never confused because the organization was so good.

It was very well organized.

It was well organized. Beautiful route-I even wish it could have been more rural and less in the city-the stretch along the Bitterroot river was amazing!

It was wonderful! I loved the excitement, support, organization, volunteers, course, and the sense of community. My son loved the fireworks, medals, and support. We are very excited to do it next year.

It's exciting to be involved in something so active and well organized.

It's local. It's fun. It's growing. It evokes a sense of pride to take part in the hometown marathon. Great job to Anders!

It's local. It was very well organized. There wasn't much elevation change.

I've been all over the US and never saw fireworks at the start. I liked the idea of offering an early start for slow participants. I have never seen a grand piano as part of the music along the course. I also liked the volunteers spraying us along the course.

just a great overall community event. thanks for doing such a great job!

just about everything. the organizers worked hard at putting on a great race.

Level of competition

level terrain great for a first timer. Support at each intersection. Posters along the way. My METAL! :) ALSO bus service. The shirt was great.

Location, friendliness of volunteers, ease of getting to expo/race start.

location, organization, pretty much everything!

Location, well organized, course marked well, plenty of aid stations

LOTS of folks with sprinklers! Excellent organization this year -- especially liked the new location of the gear bags (and the gear bags themselves). The finish felt streamlined, with quick access to hydration and calories. Really pleased to learn that race photos will be free. I probably wouldn't be able to afford them otherwise, and it's a pretty special thing to have. Same goes for the finish photos. They're super cheesy, and I LOVE them. Also, I always really enjoy Clothman at the start of the half -- even as a dedicated atheist. :)

Lots of good training groups. Well organized. Community spirit. GREAT EVENT

Love Missoula and it's a very well run race!

Love the beauty of the first part of the half. Great community support. Fun signs to keep us distracted along that hellish stretch on 7th. Great finish on the bridge. Lovely spread of food and drink at the end of the race.

Love the course and the support staff.

Love the people and the event as a whole.

love the people, crowds, and the community.

Loved all the community support! And the painted logo outside my driveway! Such an amazing experience the last two years have been! And plan on continuing to participate in years to come! Way to go Missoula Marathon committee! You rocked it!

Loved the amount of aid stations through out the course. The crowds were also great. The first 20 miles were beautiful and scenic.

Loved the energy of the crowd, the supporters, the fireworks, and I thought it was very well organized.

Loved the fireworks! Loved the "Code of the West" signs.

Loved the location as well as the number of participants and volunteers. Everyone was extremely enthusiastic which is very contagious in such a race. I loved the actual course itself, and the early start to beat the heat. Great experience as I will definatly participate again.

Loved the people who set out sprinklers. Also the munber of water stations. The oranges & gummy bears at the one water station were a god send. Very much appreciated at that point. The city police at the intersections...awesome.

Loved the race bag, the virtual race bag, the crowds and volunteers, the medal, the scenery, the free photos, the free beer...so, so much to love about this race.

Loved the running club again this year. Missoula is unique, we really have a special environment here.

Most organized, friendliest race I have ever run.

Most things about it. Virtual bag is much better than a bunch of coupons that I don't want. Liked the availability of photos at the end and to download at no additional cost.

Nice people, nice course.

Nice placement and enough port-a-potties, good aid stations, love all the volunteers and people cheering us on. Overall, a great race!

Nice to run in Blue Mountain/Target Range; great supportive neighbors with sprinklers along the way; good community support; good to have fundraiser for Youth Homes

number pick up was much smoother as was bag pick up at the the end of the race

Oh goodness, so much that I enjoyed. First time racer. The crowds on the route. The constant updates, the walking classes associated with it. The organization of the race. The volunteers. The race officials on the routes. The water/aid stations. The Expo. The police officers directing traffic. The photographers. The finish line. The announcers. The medals. The fruits/nuts/ food at the finish line. The port-potties. The race officials. It was THE most amazing thing to participate it. I can't even begin to imagine the hours and hours and hours of work that goes into putting this event together. It was just wonderful!

Organization was amazing. The people along the way and the signs were inspiring. It was my 1st race ever and I loved it! organization was great - everyone encouraging.

Overall a good experience. Joined the Missoula Marathon Walking class and had a very satisfying experience. Met people with similar interests and enjoyed their company. Great Instructors!

Overall I liked the general atmosphere of the marathon. Everyone was very upbeat and positive...runners & helpers. I loved hearing my name as I crossed the finish line. It made the accomplishment that much better.

Overall organization of the race. Volunteers on course, including start and finish. Refreshments at finish.

Perfect weather, beautiful course, great support from crowd during race!

Plenty of Porta-Potties,

Popsicles afterward!! Lots of port-a-jons at the start. Community support (music, sprinklers, etc...). Orange slices at an aid station. Lots of aid stations (they made the last miles pass very fast). Photos included in the price. It was easy for me to transfer a registration from an injured friend to me.

Race packet pickup was easy and fun. Loved the fireworks at the beginning, the finish line was beautiful and the community along the way was amazing. Amazing experiecing!

Really enjoyed running along Blue Mtn Rd at sunrise - very beautiful. The city really supports the event so it was very fun from beginning to end!

Runners, crowd, course (including the neighborhoods). Also, well organized (buses, gear bags).

Running the route was seamless. I never had any confusion on which direction to go.

scenery people everything

Seems to be very well organized. IT is not too big that I feel like it is chaos. Other runners seem very supportive. Lots of volunteers and the aid stations were well manned.

So many great people cheering us on, it really felt like the entire town supported the runners.

So many volunteers helping on the course and off - very impressive.

So proud of missoula for this event!

So well organized. This is the best race I have ever participated in. The best part is the support the runners receive from the community. All the volunteers were wonderful and very helpful and the supporters who came out to cheer helped me along the entire route. Please continue to enjoy our community especially residents and business along the route.

Special thanks to the Brooker family, Run Wild Missoula org, Runner's Edge, Event Staff and Planners, Volunteers, and everybody associated with the Missoula Marathon-it is the GREATEST EVER!

Stunning day. The bus transportation to the race.

Super well organized, awesome volunteers, clearly marked course

Super well organized, great course...hit all the cool parts of our town.

That is here in my town. Its the only Marathon I have ran in so, I do not have a comparison to any other.

That you allowed an individual with disabilities to count treadmill walking miles towards marathon and then allow me to walk over the finish line

The 1/2 Marathon course is amazing and so much fun. The energy and collegiality of the other participants. The encouragement from spectators along the route. The amazing reception along the bridge and at the finish line. The availability of quality snacks and water at the finish. The photo is also a nice touch. Last year's and this year's medals were very cool. Last year's shirt was amazing.

The amount of support and community members that cheer you on.

The atmosphere was great!

The atmosphere was great! I appreciate that it is organized but not overly managed. The course is beautiful; I love that the last several miles are in the neighborhoods where people are likely to be out, cheering you on.

The atmosphere was so fun and positive. The volunteers were great and the medal was awesome!!

The atmosphere, the course, the signage, the event staff, the food... Basically everything

The beautiful course

The beautiful course, perfect weather, friendly spectators and great organizers and volunteers. Loved everything.

The beautiful course, the people walking and running and folks cheering in every neighborhood.

The beautiful route, chip time printouts right after the race, free photo downloads, personalized announcements at the start and finish (identifying the oldest/youngest runners, people approaching the finish, etc...), virtual shwag bags, gear bags right at the finish line, great food!!!

The community involvement! Grand piano guy

The community support and enthusiasm were outstanding. The route was beautiful and well marked with both signs and fantastic volunteers. The event was impressively well organized, especially with regards to busing and the drop-off area. I really like the shirts given to participants, and the fact that coupons are online instead of in paper form. The bag pick-up was well organized and efficient. This was my first half-marathon event, and I was incredibly impressed.

The community support Banter and friendliness of participants Scenery and route

The course is beautiful and the staff / volunteers are wonderful.

The course is BEAUTIFUL!! The finish is great! The event was very organized and seamless. The shuttle busses were efficient and easy to find. The race shirts are good quality and one of the few race/athletic t-shirts I may actually wear again! I love the complimentary photo after the race. There was so much community support along the course - my very favorite was the man in a tuxedo playing a grand piano in his yard just before Maclay Bridge. Everything was great!

The course is great and the people who run it are wonderful.

The course is great, and I liked that you moved the gear bags to right at the finish.

The course is unbeatable. Lots of port-a-poties!

The course is well mapped out. Well organized.

The course the expo

The course the start time the volunteers the volunteers the organization the post race amenities the pre race activities...beer run, kids run Run Wild Missoula the volunteers the technical tee shirts the cool awards the medals the aid stations did I mention the volunteers? the community support the piano player on river rd the finish in front of the Wilma...so Missoula

the course was amazing. the fireworks at the beginning were great too! sprinklers helped out a lot

the course was beautiful!! the people were friendly and accommodating!

The course was gorgeous! I love that all the residents came out and supported us along the way and were so generous with sprinklers and gummy bears. I now live in San Diego and have done a half here on the coast. We ran along the 101 highway on the beach but I still liked the Missoula course better.

The course was great. varied. Super finish line

the course was great..water stations great..support with in group and along way very inspirationaltons of information on running a marathon and all the self help info.

The course was very nice.

The course, the community support The expo

The course, weather, volunteers.

The course; the aid stations; the volunteers; the Good Food Store's post-race feed; the free picture; quick race results on-line; efficient bussing system; good souvenirs in tent on Saturday pick-up day; BEST MARATHON SHIRT YET!--the red one, not the half's orange one; the sprinklers on the course; the good will and enthusiasm this event generates in the Missoula community; opportunity to meet those crazy fifty staters and the "maniacs"; early start for walkers; the tuxedoed piano man.

The crowd was absolutely AMAZING! This event was organized very well and a pleasure to participate in. I cannot wait for next year! I also really appreciated that the pictures were free. :)

The draw string bags, the medals, the shirts. I liked how they announced names at the finish line.

The efficiency of putting the race on. The choices of food at the end of the race. The photo and the medal, that I did not expect, as I was not a winner. The great weather that you provided. I also appreciated the grand piano player out by Maclay Bridge and all the wonderful people along the way who had music playing or sprinklers running. The immediate listing of times the very next day in the Missoulian.

The energy and excitement around the whole thing. Loved it!

The energy was fantastic.

The energy was great. so many people participating and so many people supporting made the race go by quick. plenty of aid stations and volunteers

the enthusiasm and positive energy. the joyous-ness. the community and club and the running store all made it a great experience.

THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE!

The event was well organized.

The event was well organized. Everyone from volunteers to strangers were amazingly friendly and supportive. I signed up before May 15th and feel the price was fair, I would love to see registration open immediately after the race (for next year).

The excitement at all events was great! It was my first half marathon and I immediately knew I would do it again next year when I finished! Thanks!

The excitement of the crowds.

The fireworks & the sprinklers. Also, the post-race food tent.

The fireworks at the start of the Half Marathon was new and exciting.

The fireworks that went off to signal the beginning of the race. The food at the finish line was great.

The fireworks, the sprinklers, the food, the cops, the huge finish line, the relatively secluded start area that moved into a great cheering section.

The first time I ever ran a half marathon was in 2008 at the Missoula Marathon. It was one of the best experiences I have ever had. That same year my son did the kids full marathon finishing up the last mile on the day of the marathon. He was 8 at the time and extremely bummed that he got a plastic medal when he saw my medal. After that day he asked me every year if he could do it with me. Of course life is busy and it didn't work out until this year. Plus I felt he was old enough and I felt I was in the zone to train again and do it. So together we trained for it running in the evenings or mornings which ever worked out best. Just training for it was such an enjoyment running with my son and when the day of the race came we were both excited! Just like before the experience was amazing. The amount of encouragement my son received from everyone in the race to Missoula showing up to encourage along the way was such a positive experience for both of us. I can't tell you how excited he was when they put that medal around his neck at the end! It was awesome.... such an amazing experience for him and me. So I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the hard work you put in every year to make this event possible. The amount of volunteers, the support by Missoula is amazing... Thank-you!

The friendliness of the people involved with the marathon directly and of the community in general.

The fun at the start, the people along the way (volunteers and residents), and the festivities at the end.

The great folks in the community who supported the runner with sprinklers and music. I loved the piano player.

The greater fan support along the course was very much appreciated. There were fans and sprinklers out for the 1/2 marathoners.

the group energy and organization

The incredible amount of volunteers who help put on a great event. I have only been running for a couple of months and this was my first full marathon. I can't wait until next year!

The last time I ran the half marathon was 2010. The organization has improved greatly in the past 2 years. Loading of buses was better and mile markers were clear.

The Missoula Marathon has a great course and fun atmosphere!

The Missoula Marathon was my first marathon. Because of the organization and the wonderful event staff, volunteers, and the community of Missoula I am not only hooked on marathon running, I will try to run the Missoula Marathon for many years to come.

The number of volunteers and public participation was amazing! Running outside of the city was my favorite part of the course.

The organization is amazing. From the loading of the buses at 0430 to the finish line and the movement of the runners. The course is good. The local support is awesome. Missoula is a great place to live and be a part of.

The option for the early start for walkers was great. It draws more members from our club (Marathon Maniacs) to participate by offering a longer course time. The 5k prior to packet pick-up and the farmers market at the expo were great!

The organization of it was wonderful. The output of support of the community was great.

The organization was AMAZING! From the packet pick-up to the race day shuttle, the gear bag drop off and pick up; the food and drink after the race, the pictures and race results retrieval - all of it so incredibly organized. All the volunteers need a big shout out for their friendliness and being so enthusiastic. The groups manning the aid stations were wonderful as were those who lived along the route cheering and offering other types of support - even little kids with their "high 5s". I will definitely participate again next year. THANK YOU!

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The organization, volunteers, course, community support.

The organization.

The overall atmosphere, how well organized it was.

The overall experience was very exciting. The support of the community and the overall organization of everything. I had never raced before but with the information on the website as well as emails that were set out leading up to the race I felt very at ease. The late pick up at Mso hub was helpful.

The people participating in the event were a lot of fun to run with. The overall event was enjoyable and positive. The shuttle buses were very prompt and quick to get to the start line.

The people were so nice and it was a beautiful run. The snacks and water were spaced perfectly. The ending was so beautiful with the balloons and all the people cheering.

The people, the route basically EVERYTHING

The people; participants, volunteers, staff, and community folks were terrific!!

The race is well organized and the course is easy to follow. Volunteers at the aid stations were awesome -- energetic and enthusiastic! High school kids make it great.

The race route, the atmosphere, the people, the end of race setup (seeing to racers needs before they met up with spectators), the finish line. It was an incredibly enjoyable experience. The support that locals and neighbors provided was AWESOME! As always, running in Missoula is a beautiful experience. I won't ever forget the image of Blue Mountain road COVERED in racers as far as the eye can see in both directions. I've run that stretch before and that experience is unmatched!

The race was incredibly well organized. The aid stations were perfectly placed along the course for the full. The fireworks were a great touch. The website was super helpful, especially the FAQ. Every volunteer I interacted with was super! The course is (mostly) really beautiful and great to run. Considering it was my very first race ever, I think I can take a stand and say that it was really easy to figure out what I needed to do at the beginning as well as at the finish. I was prepared to be more confused and for things to be more chaotic than they turned out to be.

The race was well organized. The runners were very courteous to each other and all the volunteers. The kids marathon and the 5k are very nice community races as well.

The response of the Missoula community to the Marathon (support of racers with music, water, cheering) is wonderful.

The route

-The route was flat, shaded, and visually appealing. -Free coffee while waiting for the shuttle bus on race day! -Immediate print out of results after finish -Fireworks at beginning -Good quality event t-shirt -Gentleman playing classical music on the go

The route, the crowds, the feeling of achievement.

The route, the spectators cheering us on and the spectators who turned their sprinklers on so we had a choice whether or not to walk through them and the wonderful music provided by people on our route. That was fantastic!

The run was beautiful. Great location.

The scenery on the run was amazing, and the volunteers did really great!

The small town atmosphere in the Big Sky country attitudes.

The support along the route and at the finish. The fireworks at the beginning were awesome. And finally, Clothman was "super".

The support and encouragement for walkers as well as runners.

The support and encouragement from Gallway training group and Pam and John. The work of the many volunteers and planning committees. I also enjoyed volunteering at Jeff Galloways table at the expo and getting to visit with runners from out of town.

the volunteers and people along the side of the road were very supportive and made me feel great as I ran past them.

The volunteers were amazing, their cheers are what got me through. The fireworks at the start of the half were great. Being from Missoula I loved running through town. The finishers medals and shirts are amazing, I just love them!

The volunteers were fabulous, there were plenty of aid stations and the course was well marked. I loved the finisher's medal, and the post-race refreshments were awesome.

The volunteers were very nice and encouraging. The race seemed well organized and actually started on time. It was a beautiful course and a lot of fun. Loved the free pictures and water at the end of the race.

The volunteers, community support, course, mingling with other participants & the Expo.

The volunteers, the community, and the overall organization was amazing!!

The weather was stellar! Encouraging signs along the way were fun and positive. I live right by the half start, so the race location is perfect.

The whole atmosphere of this race is incredible...from the scenery to the signs a long the route to all the locals who gather in their lawns to watch, cheer, and offer sprinklers. Also the gummy bears by Cafe Dolce really hit the spot!

Then energy, people, the whole event

There are many things I liked but one that stands out is the clear indication and consistency of the location of water and gatorade at each aide station. I also appreciated the signs as well as the sprinklers.

There is an emphasis on safety. Crossing of busy streets were handled by uniformed deputies or police. The aid stations/water stations were adequate, well placed and served both water and sport drinks. I appreciated the larger milage marker banners. Mile markers are important to me. Anyone on staff, the volunteers were both helpful and friendly. I was confused about the gear bag procedure and there were volunteers to explain and take care of getting the gear put away and ready for the pick up. Moving the gear bag pick up to the upper level was very convenient. I appreciated the refreshment tent at the end of the race. Nice medal this year. I heard a lot of comments that it was the best yet. Nice weather this year. I liked the fireworks at the onset. I really liked the 5k race since we usually do about that before we pick up packets on Saturday. The badges for Facebook were a good idea. The Star Spangled Banner is nice tradition and much appreciated.

There were wonderful volunteers... very encouraging and providing beverages when needed. The support throughout town was sensational and it was a wonderful community event!

They do an excellent job organizing this marathon. One of the best in the county.

this event is getting better and better each year! I liked pretty much everything: the volunteers, course, variety of events over the entire MM weekend, the thousands of out-of-towners who descend upon Missoula for this special event, the economic boost the MM affords Missoula and Montana, the energy, the announcers, the post race food, medal, shirts are awesome, etc.

This is the first time I have participated in the Missoula Marathon and I honestly loved it! I felt it was extremely well organized and it was run like a well oiled machine. No complaints from me.

This race is well planned, well organized, well presented. I really liked having the Missoula 5K added at the downtown venue this year.

This was my first 1/2 Marathon so I don't have much to compare it to. But all the volunteers and event staff were VERY friendly and helpful! It was very organized and family friendly!!

This was my first marathon, and I finished slow. However the announcer, crowd, and volunteers made me feel so special! I also loved the finishers medal, it is awesome! I am from Missoula and I am so proud that such a great event is hosted here! Aid stations were great! Loved the ones with the teams from the different high school they were great cheerleaders!

This was my first year running the half marathon. I really enjoyed the festivities at the end of the race!!

Thought that it was well-organized.

Very fun race with incredible community support. Love the area and great support at the end of the race. Overall my favorite race I have done, will continue to bring my family to this event.

Very organized and specific to details

Very organized, felt safe, never wondered where to go, and the BEST VOLUNTEERS I'VE EVER SEEN. The signs along the way cracked me up and kept me going. The piano guy, random spectators with goodies & ICE CUBES, the band at bonner park...awesome!

Very organized, lots of volunteers, everyone was friendly and helpful.

very well marked!! easy to follow

Very well organized and great course. Great volunteers. Well done all around.

Very well organized with lots of enthusiastic volunteers.

Very well organized with transport & staff. Fun!

Very well organized!

very well organized, friendly staff and volunteers, chip timing was outstanding

Very well organized. Friendly passionate staff/volunteers.

Very well organized. I like the layout of the half marathon and the events. Volunteers were very helpful and enthusiastic. I will definitely participate again.

Very well organized. Fun, encouraging.

Volunteers are amazing.

Watching the full marathon runners passing all the 1/2 marathon walkers. Amazing

We loved the route. It was shady most of the way. We appreciated all of the water stations and how well run the race was. You guys did a great job! We also enjoyed a gentleman in his tux playing his grand piano! (See my note in improvements)

Well organized ,good sideline crowds, small town good feel. Lots of training opportunities which are well done . Great volunteer force.

Well organized and supported local event. Layout after race for pictures, food and bag pick-up had better flow than in past years. Post race food is super! Shirts are great quality. I love the weekend of events. My kids did the kids marathon and next year will likely add the 5K as well. I have done 3 full marathons and many 1/2 marathons and this one is easily the best!

Well organized, friendly people. COFFEE ON THE START LINE!!!

Well organized, friendly volunteers,excellent flow and food beyond fish line, instant results, free photos, Course was good with ample shade, plenty of water stations, decent merch at Expo. Buses to half start line were efficient and driver was friendly. Before and after the race, we enjoyed staying downtown (doubletree) and found the city very walkable. Missoula has some awesome restaurants.

Well organized, great community support, support for walkers/runners with various abilities.

Well organized.

well ran and planned out

Well-organized, gorgeous course, friendly staff and volunteers, easy parking and shuttles, cheap marathon

What I liked about the Missoula Marathon is that there were so many wonderful volunteers out to help with aid stations and there were a wealth of people cheering us on as we ran so it was truly inspirational. This was my first half marathon and it was neat to get into the spirit of it.

What I liked about the race the neighbors were very helpful with the sprinklers and ice cubes to suck on, also the volunteers were right on top of things kudo's to them. AWESOME JOB VOLUNTEERS.Thanks for the support.

Wonderful mileage signs, perfect number of bathrooms, great organization of picking up packet and picking up gear bag at the end of the race

Wow! You guys did a fantastic job! We registered because you are a "walker friendly" marathon. I loved the route, the people on the side of the road with sprinklers and words of encouragement, the "piano man", the other runners, the port a potties almost everywhere you could use them, the organization, you did not run out of supplies at the aid stations (always a worry), you had people everywhere who had answers or would get answers to my questions, the fireworks!!, the weather, our hotel, The Hilton Garden Inn, had an early (very early) breakfast for us, bussed us to the start line, and picked us up after - just fantastic. The variety in the events - full marathon, half marathon, relay marathon, 5k - something for everyone. The technical shirt we were so proud to wear the next day. The drop bag system you used was great and my stuff was safe until the moment I picked it up after the race. This was our first marathon. It was fantastic. We hope to come back with a group of us next year. Thank you for your efforts. I thought it was perfect.

Please tell us what you did not like about the 2012 Missoula Marathon.

1) Getting up at 4:15 AM 2) I stepped on a snake

1. The hill! it was so hard! :) 2. Hmmm.....the heat? I don't know what you could have done about that, though.

1. The venue of the expo - it may have been fun in principle, but it made looking around at the vendors very impractical. It was very cramped and difficult to carry on any conversation. Also, it was very disturbing that we were in an area of the park where so many people were smoking pot. This was not how I wanted to spend the day before a marathon. 2. The distance between aid/water stations, especially between miles 8 and 15 when the hill and warmer temps were clearly wearing on many runners. Although we were carrying a fuel belt with 4 bottles of liquid, the dry climate and warmer temps were very difficult to handle. 3. I really do appreciate the ability to freely download race photos, so I feel bad for making this comment, but...I have no photos from anywhere but the last few hundred feet of the race. It would have been great to have a photo earlier in the race (before I was dying) or even one at the finish line next to the clock. Not sure if this is typical or if I just got unlucky.

1/2 and full marathon were well organized and laid out, but my kids ran the kids marathon and the area where they finish is a bit congested for getting pictures and activities.

1/2 marathon needs corrals now.

26.2 (the point 2 was the worst). The local restaurants were very busy and we did have a long wait for seating.

4 things: 1) The program states that the aid stations will have water first, sports drink 2nd. Maybe this was a misprint because they consistently were not set up that way. Sports drink was first and water was 2nd. Not a huge deal, but when you specifically spell it out you'd better make sure you do what you print. 2) I didn't like how blocked in you are once you finish the race. It was hard to get out. 3) A friend who did the full, finished right at 12:00 and there wasn't any food for her. In fact, they were already tearing things down. The website specifically states that runners have 6 and a half hours to finish. They should receive all of the same amenities as those who can finish in half her time. 4) The lines for the bus rides in the morning could be more organized. It seemed like a free for all and there wasn't any order to it which made it frustrating to those of us who stood in line.

A few more water stops, particularly early on, would have been helpful.

A little confusing at finish how to get out of there.

A little costly._

A little crowded at the start but that's to be expected

A little hot but what can you do?

a little more crowded than I expected

A major issue for fast marathoners was the wall of half-marathon walkers within the last few miles of the course. They were blocking the road by walking several abreast, and this made the last miles of the race more difficult than it should have been. Too many turns in the last few miles of the race. The timing mat at the half was way off (13.4 by my Garmin - and this was not an issue with my Garmin because it was in sync with all the other markers and measured 26.2 at the end).

Absolutely nothing

Accommodations are hard to come by and getting pricier. Race food could have been better- we need more calories! Big dipper at the finish would be awesome.

After race food and beverage was less than expected for this highly rated race event - variety and amount. .

After race food, need some fat. Start time for half is too early.

After the race. Not many food options. We left the area to go find some food.

Aid stations too far apart, no spectators during first half of race (first half is just really desolate), water was limited and hard to find at finish line, disappointed by tshirts this year (ugly colors!), no swag in gear bags like other races

Aid stations were often short and easy to miss when others stopped in front of you. Costly race

All good

All the beer was gone for 5:30 to 6:00 hour marathoners! Other races I've run that have half-marathons and relays seem to run out of beer because they hang around the finish-line longer and drink longer. After 26.2 miles it sure would be nice to have a cool one. It's not fair!

All the miles being posted makes the race seem longer. The route towards the end is a bit frustrating. It's too loopy and twisty.

All the turns the last half of the race.

all was well

Although, I didn't run the full marathon...I knew several people who did..and they were not happy about having to dodge the walkers in the half-marathon. I heard this same complaint last year.

Anders Bookers trying to discriminate me because he said the course shares with runners. I passed 2700 runners, and didn't hit a single person on Blue Mountain Road. Anders Bookers, needs to allow for us to do the whole marathon, or get sued by the USHF, Para-Cycling Community, the ADA, and have to pay out millions for discriminating with excuses and not paying attention to ethics or physics.

Are you kidding? This was a fantastic race in a fantastic location. It's one that I will be recommending for sure.

Around noon, there were still many people hanging around caras park waiting for massages or whatnot, and most of the concessions had either packed up or just weren't there. My family was waiting for me to get my massage and it would have been nice to have a few more vendors there.

Aside from the early start and long lines for the bathrooms at the start (which really can't be avoided), everything was great. Would it be possible to put a few toilets at the bus pickup downtown? Maybe use the same ones that will be used at the finish? Or even make the ones at the finish available in the early morning?

At first I felt the price was a little high, but after participating and seeing how great everything came together, I'm OK with how much it cost to enter.

At some aid stations through the first 5 miles there were not enough bathrooms. I was unable to stop for a restroom till mile 10 because there were lines for all the others.

At start line, could not hear speaker, refreshment variety could have been better.

at the finish line, there were too many volunteers crowding.

Availability of race results, never saw lists of results. Never found out top three in each age group,

Availability of water/sports drinks at the finish. I had picked up a warm water and was looking for a colder one with the other hand and a volunteer snapped only take one...please. Generally a runner is "allowed" as many drinks as needed. Obviously within reason.

Bag drop race numbers were not in race packet as instructions stated. Race results still not available on the internet as of 5:00 PM, 7/10/12.

Because I'm a little slower an finish just before 6 hours I sure like to see some of that food thayt others get an for the tear down wait a bit my race photo almost did not happen I had to beg them to take it.

Because it was so hot this year, I would have preferred to have the full start at 5:00 AM so I could have been done sooner. And the hill at mile 14 I did not like.

Because it was too crowded on the bridge, my wife was unable to watch me cross the finish line

Because the pace groups started with the gun, all of them were crowded in the front of the start. I wanted to run with the 4:30 pace group, but couldn't because of the crowding at the start. I didn't catch up with the pacer until the last half mile of the race. 6 am start was a little brutal (up at 3:30 to make the 4:30 bus), but I would rather have an early start than run in 99 degree heat!

Before/after was a little confusing at times. It took a while to find out where bags were to be dropped off and picked up, and I didn't like being corralled immediately post-race. I think it's awesome that GFS donated post-run food, but someone should tell them the mediterranean Kamut salad was the worst combination of flavors ever to give someone that just ran a marathon. Flavors were too strong, too varied, and it was too difficult to digest; I've spoken with a number of people who felt the same. Everything else offered was spot-on.

Being my first marathon I don't have any background to form an opinion.

Big "Flat" Road! :)

Bummed that I ordered a men's small shirt for my son (11) who ran in the 5k and the smallest size available was a men's medium.

Bummed that the size of the shirt I ordered was not there at packet pickup.

bus loading was not quite as organized.

Bus shuttle system is a little annoying

Bus system so early (it was well run though...)

Can not think of anything.

Can not think of anything. Great race and I had a great time.

Can you keep the temperature down?

Can you schedule an ambient temperature of about 60 degrees for next year? (smile)

Cannot think of a single thing!

cannot think of anything

Cannot think of anything.

Can't be avoided, clog of traffic at the start

Can't complain...

Can't really think of anything - the band might have been a little loud during the expo - couldn't hear others talk during one of the acts. And, the race got a little crowded in the last 6 miles - had to do a bunch of dodging and weaving to get around the walkers.

Can't think of a single thing I didn't like. It was amazing.

Cant think of anything

can't think of anything

Can't think of anything I didn't like.

Can't think of anything right now

Can't think of anything!

Can't think of anything!

Can't think of anything.

can't think of anything.

Can't think of anything.

Can't think of anything.

cant think of anything...maybe different design on shirts...

can't think of one thing

Can't think of one thing I did not like! Good Job to all!

cars on the run course. Runners shouldn't have to yield to cars in a race, especially at intersections. Stop the cars until room for them to cross, not the runners so the cars can cross.

catching a bus downtown to get to the half(and i assume the full) was a mess. poor organization slowed traffic to a halt so the busses ran late. when arriving at the peak, traffic again crawled because traffic wasn't being controlled on that end either. had to run for the less than adequate porta potties. if not given cuts in line to use the john before the race i would not have made it to the appropriate starting position.

Cheaters cutting corners while they ran with their headphones blocking out the world.

Clif Gel handed out too late in race.

Clif gel products. I feel that Hammer puts out a better product for their line of gels and it is a much more local product. Concessions at expo could be better, food could be a little more extensive at the end.

Confusing when picking up bags.

Connection flight required to arrive and return .

Cons: ummm...hmmm...nit-picking here 19 turns in the final 10k was kind of a lot. Compounded by... ...half-marathon walkers were in abundance the last 3 miles, often walking 3-5 wide, taking up the whole bike path and forcing runners to go through and around them in the corners. Race traffic is part of all races, but these folks aren't actually in my race and just become obstacles

Cost

cost

cost

Cost seems a bit high

cost to get to missoula, dinner was a bit of a problem due to big crowds at limited choices evening prior to the race

Cost was kind of expensive, parking was hard to come by at times

Cost.

Could always use a few more bathrooms at the start

could be a few more porta pottis in the race.lisa has interstitial and needs to stop more sometimes. bur the course was fun and very beautiful!

Could have been more direction on where to go for different things.

Could not pull up results from the Chip timing website...

Couldn't hear the announcements, (or Star Spangled Banner), at the start because the generator for the area light, (at the start corral), was so loud, (it should have been turned off because it was already light out by then); 2) Baggage claim sticker "bib numbers" weren't provided to runners who picked up their marathon packages after the 5K run, and later were still only available to only most of the runners, (e.g. no number was available for runner #5);

Course map said there would be gels at the River Pine aid station - there was NONE . Do not put it on the map then

Course too hot and second half was a little boring

Crowded starting chute. Heat. (But kudos for starting at 6 a.m. and for all the folks with sprinklers! A fine mist is the best.)

Crowds were a bit too large making congestion a problem, particularly at the finish line.

Did not enjoy seemingly endless city street miles. Will not return to do that again.

Did not have gels at right aid station (11.?) On the map.

Did not have my shirt size

Did not have requested race shirt size at expo...bad to exchange after race on sunday...highly inconvenient. Pa ket pickup info on website varied from newsletter info and printed material info received at packet pickup. Newsletter info was confusing...MSO Hub...really sounds like the airport (MSO are airport call letters)...so assumed thatpacket pickup ended at 4pm...as per website info....this caused us to cut visit to Glacier NP on Saturday short. Need better communication. rt...very disappointed to find out that we could have picked up packet and shirt later on Saturday

Did not like being shuttled out and waiting over hour for start. Just not for me; however i know that is what i signed up for.

did not like how far the start was but did love the course so it is worth it!

did not like the virtual gear bag. by the time it was emailed to me i was already in missoula with no way to print the coupons

Did not like virtual bags.

Didn't dislike anything

Didn't like the virtual bag--extremely limited amount of usable coupons. Also, though the Marathon billed this as "going green", it actually is just the opposite. Rather than each entrant receiving one or two pages of coupons in their race bag, every person had to go to their computer and waste a full sheet of paper printing each coupon they wanted to use. (As I mentioned, most of the coupons were virtually worthless anyway, but the total amount of paper wasted was far more than if those coupons had just been included in the bag.

Didn't see any gel til mile 10 for the half

didn't seem as walker friendly as I had imagined since I can't seem to find the results for walkers in the Race Results. I was disappointed at not having anything to do on Friday night. We went to Tamarack Brewing just to check it out, but felt like we were crashing a private party.

Didn't want to stop for a potty break since all the toilets were in use at aid stations.

Difficulty finding half marathon results online (haven't seen them at 2 days after the race yet). I would definately sign up to be emailed the results next time. My friend got hers right away, I'm still waiting to see mine online. I know I could've checked at kiosk after race but figured I'd just look online later. Frustrating!

directions on map to expo from I90

Directions were difficult to follow

Dodging all the walking racers for the last 6 miles of the marathon.

Don't think it should be in July because of heat. Should be in September

Due to my position at the start of the race (the starting line) I was held up quite a bit and not able to run at my desired pace until mile one or two.

during registration you had said walker for the half were starting at 5 am but then we didnt start till 6 am so we ended up showing up 1 hr and 45 min before the race started.

early July date (too hot!!), not enough bathrooms along the course, there was always a wait at every one I saw

early start, but completely understandable given the heat

End of race set-up was a debacle. Post race beverages were there but rest of the set up was horrible. Why not have it on Main Street to force people to go to pavilion? this was VERY bizarre and forced runners to leave the area instead of socializing after.

even tho we were downtown early we got on one of the last busses. didn't arrive at the start until 15 minutes before. Porta potty lines were long. I was still in a port potty line when the Natl Anthem was sung and in the port potty when the gun went off. Not a big deal because of a timing chip.... but I like to be in the group when it starts....not sure if this was logistics with people dropping off and not taking the bus or just the way it was. a very minor complaint compared to how well organized it was.

Everything was great - I loved it all!

Everything was great - I loved it all!

Everything was great!

Everything was great! (maybe a men's xsmall size shirt)

Everything was perfect, went off without a hitch.

expected gel before mile 10 on the half marathon by the course map

Expected gels at first or second half marathon aid station and there were no gels until cafe dolce

Expo and after party

Expo area was a little crowded, could have had more vendors at the expo starting line was narrow

Expo seemed a little bit crowded - maybe it needs a larger space/area.

Expo was a little confusing...we approached by foot from the river trail, expo was cramped and on the small side, need better signage.

Expo was pretty small and didn't offer very much. Pretty disappointed in the virtual race packets b/c they didn't really offer many coupons or freebies.

Expo was really small and extremely hot & humid.

Expo was very small and crowded, would have liked to have seen more vendor booths there.

Expo, after race goodies

Finish line area seemed cramped, but this was my first, so nothing to compare to.

Finish line food was better than many races, but I always think if you want to improve to exceptional you could do BBQ or some grill food. Also, I never found the "free beer". Maybe it was all gone by the time I finished or maybe I just couldn't find it.

Fitness expo small with very little to offer. Surprised there were not more sporting goods retailers. No running shoes for sale? Sponsors store had no discounts for marathoners? Overall poor marketing by retailers.

Food line after is too crowded. Bathroom lines prior to the race were too busy.

For someone who has the ability to run a marathon as well as the resources to travel as far as I did, I can hardly think about what I didn't like.

For such a large race the expo and "festivities" afterwards weren't very big/exciting/fun. I prefer a marathon to be on a Saturday to allow for Sunday to rest before going back to work. Having to pay for the massage afterwards. Most races have free short massages.

For the 2nd year in a row, the pacers seem to be all over the place during the race. I pretty much stayed to a 4:15 pace and finished in 4:15:03 (although 1:36 behind the start gun). At mile 8, I passed the 4:30 pacer, who was well under a 4:30 pace. At mile 14, I passed the 4:45 pacer, who was walking and had no runners with her (since she was so far in front of the 4:45 pace, I can understand why). I came in right behind the 4:15 pacer at the end, but he had no runners with him. I understand that these are not professional pacers, but it might help if they had Garmins or something.

Full Marathon could use more restrooms.

Gear bag sticker with bib number was not in my pre-race package. Food options at the finish line left something to be desired (not much variety, very small plates that made it difficult to carry food--after running 26.2 you don't necessarily want to keep getting up and down to get more small plates/tiny containers of food). Would benefit from larger plates or boxes for food and more variety for post-race food options.

gear bags stickers were crap, t shirt too fancy, didn't fit

Gear bags were a little confusing. I didn't receive a number to put on my bag but I just wrote it on and it worked out fine. Overall it was a great event! This was a very minor detail but I preferred the plastic bags we've used in previous years. The pick up area was more convenient this year though. It was nice having my gear bag so handy instead of having to walk down the stairs. Ouch!

Getting hurt and not being able to run the full :)

Getting on busses was very disorganized. There was 1 person directing/managing the lines for the buses between both the half and the full

Getting on the buss to the start line.

Getting on the busses was a bit disorganized; people would just start their own line and the next bus would stop at them instead of those of us who had been waiting much, much longer. A few more potties were needed at the start of the half and, the sound system cut in and out.

given the high temps, would have been nice to start at 5am. expo staff seemed largely uninformed, including the 'problems' booth.

going out and back the last few miles at the end is mentally painful

Great job!

Had to wait in line for a shuttle for about 45 minutes at 4:45am. Made me nervous, although I still arrived 15 minutes before start. Cones were not set up on center line but in middle of traffic lanes, so you had to watch not to trip on them.

Half marathon bus lines - some people were waiting in long lines when there were shorter lines available. I don't know if there is anyway to direct people to shorter lines a little better? Tough situation to organize.

Half marathon start was too bottlenecked/narrow considering the number of runners. It took about 2 miles to hit my pace after weaving around walkers and groups that blocked the entire width of the road. Had to run on uneven shoulder a few times and nearly injured myself as a result. The call to go to the starting area was just before the gun, so many people funneled in from the sides which further congested the starting process.

Half marathon too costly. Expo needs more space.

Half marathon walkers in the way of full marathoners. Have a walking area so they don't block the whole path.

Half start is a little congested w/walkers too close to the starting line.

hard surface. there was a clear lack of knowledge of what to do when injured on the course, whom to contact (it was NOT apparent at the rest stations). I did NOT want/need to go to the ER but I needed to get off the course and there was a lack of knowledge of how to facilitate this. No sag-wagons available I needed to call for help but I had no phone and the water stations were not knowledgeable ... I ended up walking too far for aid. this should have been better communicated in our race packets.

Hard to move around in the Expo area. Both too close together made it hard to look at vendors without being in someone's way.

Having to get up so early to catch a shuttle :)

Heat

heat :)

heat, not your fault...

Hm. Probably just that pain in my foot that started around mile eight...

honestly can't think of anything.

honestly can't think of anything.

Honestly can't think of one thing I would change.

Horrid color of shirts, online goodie bag was a little bit lame

HOT

Hot weather

Hot weather.

Hot. Expo didn't seem to have a lot of variety for men's clothing and compression clothing company's.

How bad I hurt afterwards. I was plagued with hip/foot issues during training that caused the run to not be very fun for me.

How I felt the next day :)

how long it was. ha ha, just kidding. this was my first, so I don't really have anything to compare it to, so I don't really have any complaints.

How marathoner littered their cups...I thought it was rude not to try to make it in the trash ..maybe provide more trash bins?

How sore my legs were today and yesterday! Truly that was the only negative I can come up with!

How warm it was already by 5:30, but that isn't something that could be changed. :)

I already filled this survey out but now I have realized not only was my registration lost and I had to get downtown twice, but my name is misspelled Henley instead of Haley on everything. I have ran this race every year since it started but am not sure I will continue though I like to support local events.

I am not a fan of early start times but appreciated it after the fact given the heat. I did not rent a car and this put a real damper on my ability to visit Missoula and see what it had to offer. Distances between things was not clear from the race information. Need to make this clear to participants in advance.

I am probably not going to do the race again until something is done about the half marathon walkers/really slow runners. They totally hog the course and block out the marathon runners as we are trying to finish the race. I do not understand why the half marathon walk is even an option for the race; not many races do this. It is not fair to the runners trying to qualify for Boston having to bob and weave through groups of women walking. This is so easily fixable -- MAKE WALKERS GO TO THE RIGHT, RUNNERS TO THE LEFT. Enforce it. It is not difficult. It's amazing how organized the race is, yet a simple thing like this can't be fixed.

i am still having trouble with the photo people. i paid \$20 for 3 photos taken during the race and have not been able to connect with them. their website is not working

I can find zero faults. It was a wonderful marathon experience, and I've run 22 total marathons so far, including 2 Boston Marathons.

I can never figure out how to park in the parking garage...Can you get into it the day of the race? I personally like the fireworks at the start of the half, but talked with someone who said they woke them up at 6 am.

I can not think of a single aspect that I didn't like.

I can not think of one single thing I didn't like.

I cannot think of anything. I've run about 30 of these, and I would recommend it to others.

I cannot think of anything-maybe more live music!

I cannot think of one single thing that I would change about how this event was taken care of. So impressive to handle 5000+ runners/walkers in such an orderly and exciting way!

I can't think of a thing. Previously when I participated in 2010 I had complained that volunteers staffing aid stations were yelling at walkers to get out of the way as runners came p behind them even though there was plenty of room for the . That did not happen this year. I attribute this partly to people being more accepting of programs like Jeff Galloways.

I cant think of anything ...everything was thought of...little confusing at very beginning but not bad.

I can't think of anything at this time.

I can't think of anything here- the 6 am start time was earlier than I'm used to but I wouldn't trade it for the heat of mid-day.

I can't think of anything I didn't like about it -

I can't think of anything right now. Oh, the numbers that were to be attached to the gear bags didn't work very well. Very minor.

I can't think of anything that I truly did not like...

I can't think of anything.

I can't think of one!

I could not figure out how to get to an exit at the finish line. The way out was not well marked.

I could not figure out how to park in the garage in the early am when the buses were running, because of the way the streets were blocked off. The toilet toward the end in the U area was pretty nasty.

I couldn't hear the announcer at the start of the race. I just knew the race started when the gun went off.

I did feel the map gave very good directions of the course.

I did not like all the half marathon walkers in the way of the finishing marathon runners. It is unsafe and a problem for the marathon runners trying to make a qualifying time, etc

I did not like having to dodge a few walkers toward the end of my race.

I did not like having to walk through the food area to get my gear bag. It was hard to navigate through all the people and chairs. Gear bag first, then food would be better for me. That is the only issue I had.

I did not like how long I had to wait to use the restroom during the race.

I did not like running through neighborhoods, but i do not think you can change that. there really was not anything that i did not like. except that since we were at the very end of the competitors there was not even water available when we finished. we spend 6.5 hours getting to the finish line and would have liked at least to have cold water. I realize we were very close to the cutoff time so I dont feel particularly upset about this. but it would ahve been nice.

I did not like that a lot of runners were allowed to change to the early start at the expo even though it was stated that it was only for walkers. I thought it gave them an unfair advantage to run a faster race than those who started at the regular time due to the heat. A decision has to be made whether or not runners can start early and all runners should have that option. However Missoula is one of my favorite races and this issue would no way stop me from running your race.

I did not like that the walkers were at the front of the line. They were in the way for the runners to get ahead of them. Also, they could have had the gel stuff, don't remember what brand, sooner and maybe one more time for the half marathoners.

I did not like the "virtual race bag" I like getting coupons and not having to go on line for them. I noticed some race garbage downtown late in the evening that had not been picked up.

I did not like the 6am start time for the half marathon. I understand the desire to finish teh race before the heat of the day, but even a 7am start time for runners would be better.

I did not like the amount of running we did in town during the full marathon. Zig-zagging in the University district was not my idea of running in Montana. When I train I try to avoid running in the city.

I did not like the Cliff energy gels that were given. Other than that, I have no complaints about the marathon.

I did not like the fact that I injured myself 2 weeks before the marathon. But I did complete the Half.

I did not like the fact that when I finished the full marathon, there was nothing left to eat for those of us finishing 6 hours and later. When I finished at 6 hours, the food was gone and they were folding up tables. The last person coming in from a grueling race like this should have the same opportunities as the very first person coming in when it comes to participating in the after race snacks.

I did not like the huge mile signs as they were on the white line and I don't see well and almost hit them everytime.I go by one. I know it is not possiagble to always have them off the white line because of sloping roadsides etc...but I know what you are thinking ...yes they are big as life, but they sure do sneak up on me!

I did not like the multiple pacers for the pace group times. I ran with the 3:30 pace group and the pacer was replaced at mile 13.5. While I appreciate the pacers effort, if he could not sustain that pace for the ENTIRE race then he should not have participated as a pacer. This came as a complete surprise to our group. As you know the mental aspect of racing is just as important as the physical. The new pacer essentially left our group and ran his own race. The 8:00 minute/mile pace was not sustained by this individual. In fact after the switch, we didn't see the pacer the rest of the race. This was very frustrating. One of the gentlemen that I ran with for most the race ran a 3:31 and completed the race with an awesome 7:00 minute/mile and still the pacer was NOWHERE in sight. I felt bad for the man because he told be afterward that he needed a 3:00 to qualify for the Boston Marathon in his age group. I know that the pacer can't be blamed for this but I do believe that the pacer should be held accountable and this type of situation should be looked at for future events. Please have pacers that can maintain the said pace for the ENTIRE race, not just a portion.

I did not like the orange shirt! Not a good color for most women. Please no more orange! Three years ago the shirt was a burnt orange. The burgundy full marathon shirt was great!

I did not like the shirts - thin fabric. The bus loading was a little confused.

I did not like the shirts, orange was a bad choice.

I did not like the virtual race bag. I would have liked to have seen more vendors at the expo. Also I was not informed when checking in that there would be a shirt trade booth at the end of the race, would have liked to know this in advance.

I Did not notice any pacers throughout the run. Although I heard later from bystanders that they saw a few, but they didn't stand out very well. While I did have my garmin watch to help me, had I forgotten to wear it, or was someone who did not own one, I would have been very frustrated in not having some sort of idea of my pace other than time.

I did the 1/2 marathon and there was no Gu or Gels until mile 11. There needed to be Gels and every other mile or so.

I did the half marathon. 1.) The drop off at Alpine was messed up, long traffic delays and wierd constuction cones setup. should have opened 3 lanes coming into area and made one lane for buses only. 2.) No corrals for paces, no pacers in half marathon. I started about 1/4 back and had to pass everyone, even walkers to get to normal pace at end of mile 1. 3.) I did not see Cliff gels at aid station at mile 2.8 (15.6 in full). 4.) Would have been nice to coordinate aid stations at even mile marks, not halfway between. 5.) No clock on course, if I didn't have watch, I would not know race time. 6.) Not enough solid food at end of race. I think I saw on stand with oranges and gummy bears, this should be every station after mile 18. 7.) No beer, soda, chocolate milk, or pizza at end. (I didn't see any food at the end of the 5k race either). 8.) No bars/restaurants open at end to hang out downtown longer, we had to drive out of town to find somethin g real to eat. 9.) No physical therapy or massages at end of race.

I didn't get a gear bag because they ran out

I didn't like how crowded it was at the beginning, but there's not much anyone could do about that.

I didn't like that the wait for the rest rooms was so long. That added about 7 minutes to my race time.

I didn't like the color for the shirts in the 1/2 Marathon

i didn't like the fact i couldn't print my registration paper and mail in. I tried to register on the 15th so i could only pay \$75, and i kept getting booted out of the system and never got registred in time to save the money so I had to pay the \$90 fee.

I didn't like the heat at the end. Seriously I loved your event.

I didn't like the virtual race bag this year. I know it is an effort to be green but there is something to be said about picking up your shirt and looking thru all the goodies in the bag

I didn't like waiting three minutes to cross the starting line, and weaving through traffic. Missoula should offer preferential starts for people who have done the race before. Also, last year, I did the full, and the half-marathoners drank all the beer. The full course is not well supported, and needs more gel at the aid stations.

I didn't really like the virtual bag.

I didn't see the need for fireworks at the start. Not really a bad thing, just wondered why.

I do not care about the medals at the end. I would much rather pay a lower fee and not get a medal. The t-shirt and bag are plenty

I do not like have to go "backwards" when we get to Bonner Park. Can't we figure out a way to keep going in a forward direction rather than away from the finish line towards South Avenue? Aren't most 1/2 marathons 13.2 miles?? Can't we figure out how to make it a bit longer?? The anouncer at the start of the 1/2 marathon was annoying. Give the guy a bit of a script, info to read. Loved all the stats in the Missoulia about the race. He could have passed on some of that info. He was the weakest link.

I do not like the virtual race bag. I enjoy going thru the race bag and seeing the various products and other races being advertised. Everything else is excellent .

I do think the cost of the half marathon is high compared to some other well-known races. On the other hand, that race is plenty popular and getting more crowded, so perhaps this isn't a bad thing. More funds for Missoula Youth Homes, too. I usually register early to get the best deal. I would consider this a very mild 'dislike.' It's a great race and better every year.

I don't have anything to complain about. The logistics of getting people to two remote starting locations seemed to work flawlessly. With the exception of an under-powered PA at the start of the 1/2 marathon everything went according to plan.

I don't know what my Time chip result is or how to get it.

I don't like the color of the shirt (or last year's full marathon shirt, for that matter). The neon colors are so ugly and I like to wear my tech shirt from the last race in the next one, but who looks good in neon orange?

I don't like the end of the race where the course wanders back and forth and up and down the residential areas. It makes the end seem longer which isn't a good thing in a marathon. It'd be nice if the course came right through town and directly to the finish.

I don't like the way the buses operate. They seem disorganized with where to line up, etc. Also, the people keep loading from front to back, resulting in a line of people on the bus that have to turn around and get back off when they realize the bus is full. It should be loaded from back to front so that it is easily determined when full and allow the bus to leave immediately when full. Also, I see some empty seats or only 1 person. More communication/direction should be given to the crowds trying to get on the buses.

I don't really like the last part of the marathon's running location. I am sure it is logistics, but I would love to see it not wind up and down the streets so much around 3rd and maybe go over toward the University more. Lots of shade and pretty views!

I don't think the gentleman should have been allowed to register his 7 year old daughter for the 1/2 marathon. We saw her about mile 2 and she was exhausted and was barely moving. They apparently did not train her and I was afraid she was going to end up getting hurt. Nothing wrong with children participating, I just think there should be an age limit. I saw a few 11 or older and they were doing fine.

I feel the sizing of the women's shirts was a bit off. I'm not one to wear it so tight. Fortunately I was able to exchange it for a larger size.

I felt a bit nervous at intersections where cars were waiting/trying to cross

I felt like it was a little difficult running past the walkers with so many participants. It was quite congested and took more time to sift through the crowd to continue moving ahead. Also the actual announcer in the beginning of the race was cutting in and out with his PA system. Very difficult to understand.

I felt like the walkers, more so than in the past (this was my third running in the full in Missoula), got in my way. Also I felt afterwards, the food was on the light side. Every year the commercial nature of the exploitation of running is becoming more and more transparent, and is disagreeing with why I like running. I like running because it is so simple. Just sneakers and shorts, it's very democratic. Organizations like the 'Rock 'n Roll Marathon' make me sick, and I assume this event is going in that direction to capitalize that extra dollar.

I felt the onsite pickup of numbers/race packets and information was poorly laid out and orchestrated. I appreciate the effort to go green but the complete lack of printed information in the packet made it hard to get information -- one needed to go online and I had not planned on that the day before or day of the race. I do not use a smart phone. The volunteers handing out the packets this year could not answer basic questions. The new chip thing was a pain. I did not like having to stand in a second line "verify" information and the people at the front of the alphabet were crashing the line because of the way it was configured. Then the instructions for verifying the data were lacking and confusing. The drop bag system was unclear and I had to ask a few volunteers before I got information and a number to attach to the drop bag (which I did not like that much). The number would not stay attached to the bag so I had to eventually pin it on to make it stay. The bus signage and staging at 4:50 a.m. was a little confusing and chaotic.

I felt the price was high. The swag bag was very weak. There was nothing in it. I did not like the shirt. I would like a shirt that has a stand out image on the front not a pocket logo. There are so many places around here to take a picture and display it in the art work.

I found there to be too many changes in direction at the end of the course. I find it easier to run a more direct route when I'm tired. It's tough to concentrate when you are tired and having to think about direction is more work when you are not familiar with surroundings.

I got to the start too early.

I guess the price was a little high but pretty average.

I had a very difficult I'm running with the run / walkers. It was very frustrating. Large group of walkers would take up the entire pathways. I felt like we were constantly trying to get around each other the entire race. I did the half marathon last year and gain experience these problems.

I had family members running the half marathon and I ran the full marathon. They had to wait for me for quite a while at the finish. In other marathons that I have participated in, the half marathon starts an hour after the full marathon, this makes it so the folks in the half marathon and I finish very close together.

I had to run around all the sprinklers people had out to help. I wish they were off to the side so I wouldn't have to run around.

I have colitis and I needed a washroom quickly and when I asked the volunteer where the next closest washroom was they said they didn't know. All volunteers need to be able to tell the runners where the next washroom and aid station is. I know it's in the map but runners don't have that memorized. A simple response like two more blocks is super helpful!!

I have no issues that I disliked.

I have not one single complaint.

I have some issue with the fact that once you leave the runner's area you cannot return. When I finish running I cannot eat for awhile and I often want to watch my friends cross the finish line. I realize that you do not want people who are not running to enter and that you do not want people to eat excessive amounts, but I feel I pay enough to have the opportunity to eat what I need after I have rested.

I have to think hard to come up with this....somehow I missed the first option for gel and looking back I believe the aid station was immediately after a 90 degree turn of the course, so maybe it just snuck up on me.

I have to wait an entire year to run it again!

I have two sons who ran in the 5k. I ordered a men's small shirt for the younger son, but they were all gone when we completed packet pickup.

I have zero complaints.

I honestly can't think of anything.

I honestly can't think of anything...can you guys fix the weather???

I honestly can't think of much that would make this race better, and I've been known to nitpick little things at races.

I honestly don't think there was a thing I didn't like about the race. Perhaps information at the area hotels for desk staff? But it was all so well run and so well communicated that the suggestion is just a mere tweak, not a gripe.

I just wish it had more participants and more events during the race. The long grind from Frenchtown to Maclay Bridge is pretty quiet and lonely, with few distractions. The grand piano was great! Would love to see more community-organized performances to energize the participants.

I know it is a personal preference, but the nutrition on course was not the best. The volunteers were awesome, and locations were good. However...I know a huge amount of endurance athletes that can't handle the sugars in Gatorade. Without changing the supplier, you could easily switch to G2. Also, I noticed that GU wasn't available till almost mile 10. If you are running the half (which I was), the GU would be better split in 3rds of the 13.1 distance.

I know it takes a huge sum of money to put on the race. Is it comparable to other races of its' size?

I know it's early because of the heat, but it is kind of hard to get going that early.

I know it's expensive to "run", but I wish it cost a little less -- maybe the shirt could be optional?

i know that locals are trying to help with sprinklers but they need to be respectful if you don't want to run through them. some had all the way across the road so you didn't have a choice and i didn't want to get wet. not a marathon issue but thought i would mention it. i do love that they are trying to help

I know there are a lot of participants so maybe it is not realistic to use more of the trail system, but I do like using the trails more than the roads.

I know there was a loss of some of the women's t-shirts-of that, it can't be helped-shirt doesn't fit & bummed I won't be able to wear one commemorating the race, some items I wished to purchase were not offered-ie-tank tops/singlets, beer glasses-

I liked everything

I liked everything

I liked everything about the marathon

I liked everything!!

I liked everything.

I liked everything.

I liked it all!

I liked the fireworks, but there were a couple of large *bang* ones that I didn't really enjoy, and it's not like I watched the fireworks as I started the race. The expo only had one problem that I didn't enjoy, the fact that there was a live band was nice, but it made hearing what was being said to me, and what I was saying hard to hear.

I live 40 miles south of Missoula and did not want to drive downtown to ride bus to start. If there was parking for us locals that could park at start of half....it would make it easier. But I could not ask for a better marathon and how it was put together. I hope more people do it next year. Thank you

I loved everything

I loved everything about it.

I loved everything!!

I loved it all.

I loved it all.

I loved the beauty of the finish but was so disappointed because I crossed the finish line with no one around me and the announcer did not say my name because he was busy talking with someone else...bummer...and I now (recently married) have such an easy name to pronounce...it used to happen because I had this crazy hard to say last name but now I have such a simple name...

I ordered the wrong size shirt and when I tried to trade it I was told no even though people were still registering the day before the race when I picked up my race packet

I paid very close attention to your race map and was VERY disappointed that there was no food available on the half course until mile 11 (I looked very carefully around 2.6 as was indicated on the map). Then, at Mile 11, there was too much -- gels, oranges, sports drinks, and gummy bears. It would be very helpful to see two aid stations for the half with food -- say, one at 3-4 miles and one at 10-11.

I prefer trail runs, so I'm just not crazy about road races - but that is not your problem :)

I ran the half and i try to run about a 9 min pace but i got stuck in the back and had to weave in and out of walkers for about two miles. It was difficult to get a good start with all the walkers not in the walking group. U might need to look into having a different start type if u continue to grow. Also hate orange shirts. Never do orange again. I have loved the previous shirts and wear them with pride.

I ran the half, I did not like the huge mass start of the race, if you don't start in the front then you do a lot of weaving your way in and out of people. But i guess thats not a big problem I just have to be closer to the front next year.

I ran the marathon and the last turn on Higgins street was a little chaotic trying to avoid the half marathoners.

I ran/walked my marathon (Galloway method) in 5:58:09. I started at 5:00am, but had to register as a walker. I'd like to be able to register as Galloway method, run walk or runner, but still start at 5:00am. I understand that it's preferred that runners start later, but I think it should be okay for the slow people to start at 5 and label themselves correctly.

I realize I get a lot for the money but it is expensive. The gear bag problem was confusing. I understand the numbers came in late. I thought turning in the "chip" was peculiar. Nobody sang "100 bottles of beer on the wall" on the bus to Blue Mountain. I did not like the color of either the Marathon or 5K shirt. Nice material, however.

I really can't think of anything

I really can't think of anything...

I really do not have anything I didn't like. The only thing that I might adjust is spread out some of the concessions a bit more. There were a ton of water and gatorade stands but all the fruit/gel packs etc came all within one block. It would have been nice to have something earlier in the race. (pregnant lady here though so I needed more to keep me going)

I really don't have any complaints, but it seems like in 2011 there was more entertainment and/or vendors at the finish, as well as more swag in the race packets.

i really enjoyed it all

I saw a many of the full runners have to do a slalom course around us walkers. We walkers should be more mindeful of the runners.

I saw a photo of a gal w/ bloody knees from a man hole issue. Perhaps fix streets - which is way beyond scope of the race.

I stayed at the Hawthorne Inn and Suites, who told us that the race directors had instructed them not to offer breakfast in the early morning to race participants. Very dissapointing.

I think it's impossible to have enough port-a-poties at the start of races, but I didn't have a problem. The start corral was a little narrow but not a big deal. Not sure if the 1/2 way point in the marathon was in the right spot?

I think the expo could really be improved by trying to get more vendors (powerbar, gatorade, etc etc). It was one of the largest marathons I've attended, but the smallest expo

I think the only draw back to the half, which I did was so many people. Everything else was great.

I think the post-race area could have been done better.

I think the race expo was a little small. The venue was in an excellent spot, however it was very hard to navigate through due to the crowd.

I think there should have been more port-a-potties available in the first 8 or so miles of the marathon. I stopped at about mile 6 where there were 3 port-a-potties and there were 3 people ahead of me. People seemed to be waiting to use the bathroom at most of the port-a-potties up till that point. Other than that, no complaints. Fabulous race!

I think we are getting too many people in the Missoula Marathon I ran the half and it seem congested most of the race

I thought I registered online in January. My credit card was rejected but I received no notice so I had to scramble and have a friend register me the day before the race.

I thought it odd that when I went to pick up my packet, well before the deadline, that my sister and I were unable to get our tee shirts. That was not a big deal overall just a hassle after the race.

I thought it was awesome, and can't think of anything you could do to make it better.

I thought it was confusing when you crossed the line as to where to go: to eat a snack and then get out into the street. I couldn't find a way out initially. There was no signs to indicate your race time was available down in Caras Park or that there was beer:) Also it wasn't clear your free photo could be picked up there. There was no sign I thought you got it online. The photographer never said and I asked a volunteer beside the photos and he said it was on line..

I thought it was great!!!

I thought staggered corrals for timing would help the start of the race.

I thought that, for the cost of the race, there should have been more schwag in the race bags. The virtual race bags were a pain and didn't have much even a local Missoulian could use. The expo was kind of disjointed with the new kinds of chips (having to get them checked, etc) and not having stickers ready. Most of the vendors had no samples or even things to see or try. Only one aid station seemed to have gels (or told us about them?). Could have used more bathrooms at aid stations. Would be nice to have more to eat at the end - for sure in the post-finish line tent, but then after that to buy. There was lemonade, beer, or doughnuts, as far as I could tell. None of those sounded too appealing post-race. Except the beer.

I thought the Expo was hard to get through, very tight and slightly confusing. I was also confused about my sticker for the gear bag and would have liked to know that I could pick it up at the start of the race. That was not clear for me.

I thought the map had showed that there would be the cliff gel packs at the mile 2.6 water station, but I didn't find them until mile 9 or 10. I could have easily misread the map but I was able to get the gels farther along and folks were handing them out.

I thought there was going to be more live music along the running route.

I thought there would be gel at the first aid station and counted on that.

I trained just as hard for the half marathon as did the people for the marathon..... I am not a runner, but I did finish the race in I think about 3 and a half hours, for me this is very good, and I trained for this for many months before.... the full marathon runners would yell for you to get out of their way and runners commin through... I was on the far right side of the road, why do they need to be so degrading to us walkers as they were? VERY DEGRADING!!!!!! I will treat them next year as I was treated this year and if I am asked to move over and watch out and get out of my way I will make a point for them to go around me on purpose!!!!

I understand keeping only the runners in the finish area but my daughter was trying to get across the street with two small children and had to go several blocks before getting to the other side of Higgins Ave. Small open areas could be set up at the intersections or greating areas for the runners supporters.

I understand the race was completed in summer, but a separate long-sleeve 'FINISHER' t-shirt should have been provided. This has become a staple of most marathons, and it's what many of us wear long past the race as the primary memento. (It's also good advertising to other runners.) Unfortunately, I'll probably not wear the provided t-shirt again, not even for my regular runs. Also, the food and refreshments were a little too limited at the end. I asked if I could take a water and a Gatorade at the end, and I was told "No," one bottle per runner.

I waited until the faster half marathoners got going and then started towards the back of the pack but before the walkers. Unfortunately a lot of the back of pack walked and spread out across road and was difficult to pass them.

I wanted to run with a pace group. The starting chute was narrow and fenced off, so I couldn't get to my pace group. Because pace group told to go with gun time instead of chip time, pace group was way too far up front (and I couldn't get to it). So, I miscalculated and overextended myself running to catch up to pace group, then because I went out too fast, I couldn't stay with the group and faded. Hence my run wasn't what I'd hoped it would be. (You might check -- it seemed like not many people were running with the pace group, which might indicate the problem I'm identifying here.)

I was a little underwhelmed by the Expo. My husband and I had planned to spend a few hours at the Expo, but left after approximately 30 minutes. Aside from the vendors, there wasn't much else that engaged us to stay in the area.

I was confused about checking a bag and how the pickup would work so I opted out. Not a big deal - mostly me just being a new runner.

I was confused about the lining up for the start of the race and ended up getting stuck behind some walkers. While this may have been my own fault, maybe announce it more clearly or provide more information.

I was hoping there would be GU at the water stations... But GU was only at one station on the whole course.

I was incredibly disappointed by the complete lack of gels etc (anything other than water and Gatorade) until mile 10. Your material clearly state there would be gels/gummies etc at TEN aid stations. I ran around a 12 minute mile, I am not fast so MANY people finished before I did, if I was struggling without these items I can't image what others felt. I know I could have done better with more than just Gatorade in my belly. And had I known there would be nothing until mile 10 I would have brought my own. Big fail. Also I thought the bags lacked a lot. I was unimpressed with the "virtual" bag, the offers were lame at best.

I was not familiar with the Galloway method prior to the race-it was very bothersome that people would run and walk without moving to the side-I found out about it afterwards-my biggest complaint with the whole race is that people who follow that method should practice race etiquette and move off to the side when they change their pace.

I was told I could exchange my shirt at the beginning of the race. Found that was not the case. Had to wait til the end of the race. Asked for directions to pick up my bag. Found that was also not correct. Found it difficult to exit the "runners only" area.

I was told that there would be gels provided along the way, there was only one aid station at 10 miles that provided gels. Next year I will happily bring my own, however the year before they were provided and I was told that they would be again.

I was very happy with the race, can't really think of anything I didn't like other than the fact that read you were encouraging the use of the Pouch for the aid stations but I never saw fill stations for easy filling

I wasn't crazy about the course

I wasn't too fond of the start of the race. If there were a better way to organize the pace groups, it could help a lot of confusion at the beginning. People were walking in the way from the beginning and getting in the way of runners.

I wasn't very happy with the color of the race shirts this year. Last year the shirts were awesome and this year not so much. Not a great choice of color, orange with yellow writing.

I wish I could have seen the finish line sooner. It felt like the end was never near. It was turn after turn before I could see it. I know that, that is difficult to set up.

I wish some of the final information would have been released earlier. I was already traveling and didn't have access to a printer, etc. by the time the final details/maps were emailed out. I am also disappointed that the date is changing next year. For people traveling from out of state, having it coincide with the 4th of July means we can make a trip to MT out of it for longer and not just race in and out.

I wish the post-race massages didn't have such a long wait. Everyone in our group waited at least 35 minutes... Maybe some type of a sign-up for a time system?

I wish the RRCA Championship logo was on the shirts and or medal. We didn't realize the "expo" was going on at the park on marathon day. I don't recall seeing signs. Info might have been in the packets but I'm pretty brain-dead at the end of a marathon and wouldn't remember those kind of details.

I wish the supporters had come sooner. I have run Bloomsday several times and the supporters and bands on route are what keep me coming back.

I wish there were timing devices along the route. I think the 1/2 point was not at 13.1

I would have liked to receive a course map in my brochure bag. I did not see one when picking up my packet either. I know everyone is trying to go green but I don't have access to a printer and was expecting to get one with the bag. Not being from Missoula I was unable to tell my friends where the course was going to go so that they could watch somewhere other than the finish.

I would like a fuel stop at 6 or 7 miles for the half marathon

I would like the packet pickup later in the evening. I drove in from Denver and had only a hour to spare.

I would like to have seen the early miles be a little different and also that my husband could have been able to access more of the early part of the course. Since individual supporters can't be along quite a bit of the route, MM could have other interesting 'support fun'.

i would like to see more music (bands) along the route. Motivating! Our group seemed to think there was less this year than in 2011.

I would like to see more post race activities.

I would prefer a Saturday race but that won't prohibit me from running next year

If I had to pick something it would be how many people there was I felt like I was constantly weaving around people.

If the volunteers could hold the cup in the palms of their hands its easier and much faster to grab than having their fingers holding them. Not a big deal just helps a little. All the volunteers were Over the top wonderful.

I'm not a fan of running as much through town as we do. It was really hot from McClay Flat bridge to the u district. I didn't like how difficult it was for me to get to my family after the finish.

I'm not a huge fan of Gatorade, but at this time I don't have a suggestion for a replacement.

I'm sure the "wild west" theme is nice for marketing outside of the state/region but it seems a little... hokey to me. And that's my only gripe!

I'm thinking hard - coming up with nothing!! My first experience at this half and it was wonderful!

In the newspaper it indicated that the aid station about 2.8 miles into the half would have Cliff gels, but they didn't, not that I saw anyway.

Instructions indicated to make sure we picked up our bib # sticker for the bag, which I didn't do, so I went back to get it only to find out they didn't have them. Not a big deal and if this was the only hiccup in the raceYOU GUYS ROCK!

Is it possible to have the walkers start earlier in both races or put them in the back. There always seems to be walkers that you have to work around in the beginning of the race. Is it possible to start the marathon at 5 am especially for those in the 4 hr pace?

It all was great.

IT CAN BE EARLIER START.

It can be earlier start. I know marathon runner won't mind start early, if the weather may be hotter.

It cost \$105 to register late for the 1/2 Marathon---I think that is WAY too expensive

It could have been cooler.

it got hot... okay, not your fault... I did take the early start, thank you

It is still too cramped under the one tent. I wanted to spend more time looking at the vendors but it was too squishy so I got my race number and left.

It is too bad the people of Missoula are not more excited or supportive.

It is very expensive for what you get.

It seemed like all the gels and gummy bears were bunched up at the end. I would have loved a gel at the half-way point too.

It sure did get hot !!!!!!!

It was a bit hot, but you can't fix that!

It was a bit hot.....nothing you can do about that!

It was a bit stressful getting a port-a-potty before the race started

It was a little bit confusing to get out of the course to meet my family. My husband was appalled at a runner who had pooped his pants while running.

It was a little spendy. I was disappointed with the presentation of the awards for the winners afterwards. I thought a little dull. Also couldn't hear them very well from the bleachers.

It was a little warmer than anticipated but that is unpredictable

It was about 26 miles too long.

It was all good

It was all good. Thank you for all of your hard work. I almost didn't go because I had to drive to Missoula on Saturday to for packet pick up (I live in Darby) and then get up at 3:00 am and drive back to Missoula for the run, but it was so so good I will do it every year. It was well worth it.

It was all perfect.

It was awesome. Nothing to dislike.

It was difficult to run since I had an injury.

It was great and a great place to finish my 50th state!

It was great-- no complaints!

It was great.

It was hard to hear the announcements

It was mighty hot. From what I understand, the heat was somewhat unusual for Montana, so the race directors can't be blamed for that. And I'm sure one of the appeals of the race is that it is in July, which means 50 Staters and Maniacs don't have too many other options at this of year. But I couldn't help but think that the race would have been almost perfect if it was held on a cooler day.

It was my first marathon so the only thing that I didn't like was completing the latter half of the run.

It was perfect!

It was pretty expensive. Also, our relay won a trophy, but there was only one trophy for the team in stead of a trophy for each of the four members.

It was really early in the morning, but I know with the time of year that is hard to change.

It was really hard to use the restroom because there were so many people in line. This was hard when you are trying to make a certain time and goal, and sometimes you have to go right away.

It was so unbearably hot this year.

It was the first time I ran a half marathon, so I really have nothing to compare it to.

It was unfortunate so many bystanders had sprinklers covering the entire street. It was hard to avoid when they were spraying across the whole street. Not sure how to control this in the future.

It was very expensive to register and the baggies had nothing but a t-shirt in them.

It wasn't free. ;) Just kidding

it would be great if people would play more music along the course

It would be helpful if there were more organization at the beginning of the 1/2 Marathon (maybe areas for approximate mile speed). Some people that lined up at the front of the gates were running very slowly or even walking, which forced many to "dodge and weave" for the first mile.

It would be nice if the course did not head south at Bonner Park, which can be discouraging, instead it would be nice to head south sooner than that so that Higgins and the finish line are not in sight when you head south (probably only an issue for people who are familiar with Missoula). Potentially it could weave south, then snake back north rather than an obvious double back.

It would be nice to have gels or bars in the event bag.

It would have been nice to be able to park at the start, but the buses were really efficient. The line to get on it wasn't long and the ride was great.

It'd be great if the registration price would not go up. I was nursning an injury and wasn't sure I'd be ready and it would have been nice to not have to pay the higher price.

It's early!

Its hard to come up with a disklike. I ran the half marathon, and though there was an amazing number of porta potties at the start, I had to wait in line until even the walkers has crossed the starting line before I had a chance to use them. Next year I will be on the first bus just in case that happens again.

It's hard to find something for this category. The only thing would be I'd like to have known earlier that the shirts were sex specific. I would have ordered a different size. If this was advertised, it may have been after I registered (in February) or I just missed it.

It's too hot in July. June would be better.

Just a little crowded for my personal preference.

Just the mishap with the gear bag numbers.

Kind of expensive.

Kind of hot, but I realize that is part of the event. No complaints everything was so organized!!

Lack of comprehension of what was going on, since I am 100% deaf. I came alone, so I just basically followed people if they go somewhere. At first, I wasn't aware of separation of walkers and runners until I walked around to investigate at the start line. When I was approaching the finish line, I was perplexed when some race staff rode bicycles and told me to move over to the right side of the road. Finally I realised that I crossed the finish line at about the same time as the full marathon finisher Collin, and that the staff was trying to steer me to other side so that Collin would have his marathon finish.

Lack of info in packets. we didnt have the secondary numbers to attach to our bags.

Lack of porta potties at the start area. I realize the pictures are free, but it's very hard trying to pinpoint where you are out of the thousands of random pictures. There should be a way you can search just by your bib number and/or last name and only those photos will pop up.

Lack of powerbar gel shots along the course

Lack of racial diversity.

Lack of support.

Lack of variety of food at finish.

last three miles of race seemed like an afterthought with all the twists and turns gave the appearance of having to find mileage to meet the correct length. the last three miles also because of narrower course produced a slant which all of my group noticed

Late check in at the MSO Hub didnt seem real organized and they didnt have enough t-shirts for everyone who was checking in.

late packet pick-up was not prepared/organized for the number of runners there. because we arrive late every year we always miss the expo :(

liked everything

limited space to stand near the finish line, virtual race bag made it difficult for traveling racers to print and use offers.

Lines at the bathrooms slowed down times

lines at the toilets

Little disorganized at check in!!

little to hot for me

Location of post-race amenities. Water is easy to find, but food and other services is tougher because it is not very intuitive (if you're not looking at a map) because it is separated from the events at Caras AND the easy/immediate family meet-up spots at Front and Higgins just past the finish line.

Long line to get on a bus, no possible way I was able to use a restroom prior to the start due to the inadequate number of portable restrooms. I would also have liked the finish line clock to be accurate.

Long lines at the bathrooms before the half marathon. Was confused about the half marathon start time due to fireworks going off.

Long lines end of race

long stretches in the open sun

Long wait at the bathrooms before race start but I'm not sure how that could be improved. There seemed to be plenty of port a potties.

Loved everything

Loved everything!

Loved everything.

Loved it all!

loved it all!

Loved it all.

Many out of towners lacked access to printers to utilize virtual coupons,

Marathon walkers, especially towards the end of the course, served as annoying obstacles to pass throughout the race because some walked with 4-5 persons abreast without much consideration for runners approaching behind them.

Maybe a few more bathrooms at the first few 1/2 marathon stops.

Maybe a little larger expo/concessions/fun for the non-participants.

Maybe it was just because it took me about six hours to finish and any available cold bottled water was gone, but that was my only complaint. Warm, Culligan Water was not at all appealing. There was a tub of some beverage in ice but no water which left me very disappointed and thirsty. Don't think I've ever been to a race where there wasn't at least room-temperature water available.

MC chatter at the start of the half marathon. I don't need to be entertained at 5:30AM (this is not a serious complaint, but a little more quiet would have been nice)

Mile markers were not observed between miles 20-finish - I might have had head down, heat stroke or nausea which could have cause me to miss seeing them.

Mile markets were off, I tracked myself and ended at around 14.25 miles and started/stopped tracking exactly as crossing the start/finish lines. Also, I had a battle with a pothole that caused me to injure myself.

Minor - Taking over a minute to just get to starting line... and then having to go out fast to run down pacers (who rightfully started out in front), not sure if any way to correct for us slower runners Very Minor - Missoulain having 3 sec higher race time printed than chip company, may have been bigger difference for others

Minor point, a few too many turns the final 10 miles

missed out on the free photo at the finish

more bath rooms on the route needed a place to sit and watch for a friend to finish...had to sit on the ground

More Bathrooms are needed at the starting line the wait times/lines were way too long and took away from other pre race preparations.

More bathrooms.

More different kinds of food at the end would have been nice.

More port-a-potties at aid stations. Most were well supplied but there were a couple aid stations that were packed with people cheering. These bystanders were using the limited bathrooms and causing lines for the runners. At mile 8-9 there was a huge group. I stopped to use the restroom and had to wait (which is ok) but then noticed all the people coming out of them were in street clothes. Not a single runner was in there.

More port-a-potties at early stops on the half course would have been appreciated.

More restrooms at the start is always needed!

more trash cans

Most of this is my fault for missing the early registration lower cost, but the race fee almost made me not sign up. Clearly the money goes towards orchestrating a great race, and I'm glad it's so well supported, but that was the only concern I had.

my accommodations - Red lion - nothing to do with marathon though

My buttocks hurt really bad afterwards.

My family was unable to meet me at the finish line in time because the parking was so far out and they had a hard time navigating their way to the finish. This was my first time with the missoula marathon and so next year we will have a better plan.

My feet hurt at the end :)

My girlfriend and I had a great time. Everything was good

My husband and I did not receive the virtual race bag.

My online registration was lost but I was charged so they set me up with a new chip. The frustrating part was I was told I needed to come back later in the day to test the chip. So I came back to make sure it worked later and then I was told it couldn't be tested and I was told wrong. It was really frustrating to have to get to downtown Missoula twice on such a busy day when it wasn't necessary. Also I am frustrated with how expensive it has gotten the past few years.

My only 2 comments - 1) the corral at the beginning of the race was just too damn skinny. Consider using a wider corral so people can get with their pacers and / or friends. 2) Systematic of every race, you can NEVER have enough bathrooms at the beginning. This is particularly true if you have to take a shuttle to the beginning of the race because it requires coordinating timing and logistically planning for the morning's requirements :)

My only complaint is the walkers who started with the runners at the beginning of the half. I don't know that there is much that can be done, about that.

My only complaint was the announcer at the beginning of the half-marathon was having trouble with his microphone. They were trying hard to get it figured out but ran out of time.

My only complaint, which is minor, is that there were not mile markers every mile for the half marathon. This was frustrating bc sometimes two miles would pass before we saw a mile marker and it was hard to gauge how far we were. Please put mile markers at every mile marker for the half marathon like you did for the full marathon.

my only problem was in the e-mail i had it didn't specifically have where the packet pick up was so i went to the double tree hotel where they told me it was at caras park. I would like to thank the people of missoula for a great race

My only suggestion would be to have some clocks out on the course for those of us who don't wear watches. Have pacers a little more visible.

My overall pace (not your fault). I need to train more :) I wasn't a fan of the pasta salad at the finish.

My picture at the end.

my sore foot

My sore legs after the race :)

My stomach acted up around mile 7.....

n/a

N/A

N/A

N/a

N/A

N/A

N/A

n/a

N/A

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n/a
N/A

N/A - Perfect race as is. Great local volunteer support.

N/A I loved it all!!!

NA
NA
NA
NA
NA

Nada.

Need more portapotties at start of half marathon!!!!

Needed more bathrooms on the race course.

Needed more variety of food at the recovery area. The hot pasta was not appetizing after running and the heat.

New fenced start area was too narrow. When I entered the area all I could see was the 3:30 pacer and 4:30. There was only about 20 ft between them with everyone jammed together. The 3:40, 3:50, and 4:00 pacers were not able to squeeze themselves into position until mere minutes before the start. I think they need to widen the start as in prior years. THANKS!

No chocolate milk at the end of race

No chocolate milk available at the finish line. Really. It would have been the perfect drink after a long run.

no coconut popsicles, strawberry were good but I looked forward to the coconut ones since last year.

No comment.

No complaints

No complaints

No complaints

No complaints

No complaints

No complaints

No complaints (can't blame you for the heat!). :)

no complaints about the marathon.

No complaints!

No complaints.

No complaints.

No complaints.

No complaints.

No complaints. You did a bang up job.

No complaints..

No dislikes

no dislikes

NO dislikes!

No food until Mile 10 for the half-marathon! That was not expected and was the only disappointment.

No free parking...was frustrating to have to keep track of meter and running back to plug it to enjoy the downtown shops. Can't do much in 2 hours.

No gatorade at the aid stations, please - - water with electrolytes or something with less sugar would have helped.

No gels at Pineview - gels were indicated on the course map . Need to correct before next year!!

No gels fir 1/2 except on one station...? I thought flyer indicated more

No heathy options for concessions and not enough aid station options

No huge complaints. Food after the race didn't look appetizing, but I don't know that a different menu would have looked good so soon after... I wasn't too impressed with the pre-race fair, though my main focus during the weekend was on the marathon so I don't think that more activities/booths makes for a better marathon weekend.

NO MORE LEMON LIME GATORADE!!! IT TASTES LIKE SHIT. With all those people paying all that money to run you should be able to afford something besides lemon lime gatorade.

No Mountain Lion service on Sunday. My motel was 2 miles from the start so I could have walked/warmed up if there was a way to get a ride back.

No negative aspects what so ever.

No negatives.

No parking allowed at the start. It didn't make sense for me to get the shuttle because I live in Florence. My family dropped me off and parked to see the start of the race. I'm pretty sure they were parked illegally to do so but luckily there were no repercussions. Also, my family tried to follow the race route to see me at check points. They could only make a couple points because of closed roads. Of course racer safety is key and having Blue Mountain road closed was a MUST with that many racers so I don't know of a solution to that! Finally, they ran out of race bags and t-shirts at the late check in. I was told at that point I could get my gear bag at the start of the race. It was in fact at the end of the race. I still got it but wasn't able to use the drop bag service. This is despite the fact that I did email to inform that I would be getting my packet at late pickup so I felt like they should have had my stuff set aside. I know the miscommunication about where I could get my bag/shirt on race day was because it is a huge event with a lot of volunteer help. It wasn't that big of a deal but could have been a problem for an out of town racer without family to take their belongings to the end of the race.

No place to park - basically my husband had to throw me out of our pick-up as he drove by at both the race packet pick-up site and the race bus catching site. Made it very hard to want to continue - this was my first race of any kind - pretty intimidating.

No substantive complaint!

No Vaseline at the aid stations. I heard several runners ask for some.

non

None

none

None.

None.

None.

Not a darn thing!

Not a lot of bands or crowds cheering during the race compared to some others I have run.

Not a thing! Perfect!

Not a thing.

Not a thing.

Not a thing. I love this race!

Not a thing...you guys have it nailed!

Not a very scenic course-

Not applicable...

Not as much crowd support as I would have liked.

Not crazy about all the pavement. Bathroom lines were pretty long, even the one provided by Youth Homes. Could use a few more. That was a little stressful.

Not enough bathrooms along the course-it seemed there was always a line at every station and I was not willing to wait in line.

Not enough bathrooms at the starting line. Virtual race bags were confusing and not useful.

not enough food & drinks at the finish

Not enough music throughout the course.

Not enough nutrition at aid stations

Not enough porta potties at start of half marathon, potential shuttle back to starting lines. Racers throwing garbage in the water barrels at aid stations. Price - little expensive.

Not enough porta potties in the first half of the full marathon.

not enough porta potties on the full route. the announcer at the end of the race has mispronounced my name twice...maybe have phonetic spelling option!!! need some sort of entertainment miles 2-13...nothing going on

Not enough port-a-potties along course

Not enough port-a-potties at the Full Marathon start

Not enough porta-potties.

Not enough portapotties. I had to wait until mile 10 before I could finally go without having to wait in line. I thought about stopping behind a bush, but since much of the race went through residential areas, I didn't want to pee on someone's yard.

Not enough poryapotties at the first three half-marathon aid stations. Really, really annoying to have to wait in line. The ones further on were without lines but people need more available in the hour after the start. Was the same problem last year - can you please fix this for next year?!!!

Not enough rest rooms on the route.

Not enough restrooms at the beginning of the marathon. People were peeing in the fields along the first 5-10 miles of the course because there were not enough outhouses.

Not enough shirts. I arrived saturday night and picked up registration stuff at MSO hub. They did not have gear bags or a shirt in my size.

Not enough spectator area at the Higgins Bridge.

Not having an address as I tried to find the registration pick-up location.

Not much

Not Much

Not much, other than they didn't have first aid personnel at the aid stations.

Not nearly enough gels, I almost bonked at mile 15. Every thing else was great.

Not one thing.

not receiving a gear bag number with the bag at registration, and no explanation about the number system or that you wanted participants to use the bag provided, there was some information online but it was hard to locate, also no information about the buses beyond when they started, this needs to be clearer for individuals who have never run the race before

not sure

Not sure what the solution might be, but the distribution of the pictures might be a little better.

Not the prettiest Half T- shirt. But I guess it's good for night running? (Being super bright and all)

Not too fond of Gatorade. Would prefer Nuun for electrolyte beverage. That's my only complaint. Glad I ran the half marathon as the full would have been too hot for me by the time I would have finished.

Nothing

Nothing

Nothing

nothing

nothing

Nothing

nothing

Nothing

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Nothing

Nothing

Nothing

Nothing
nothing
Nothing
nothing
nothing
Nothing - except the heat.
nothing - loved it!
Nothing - you guys all did an excellent job!!
Nothing (the only reason I won't do it again is because I am running in every state and I have to spread the love. If I do a second round of doing all the states I would want to do this one again.)
Nothing :)
Nothing :)
Nothing :)
Nothing at all.
nothing bad to say
nothing big
Nothing big
Nothing comes to mind!
Nothing comes to mind.
nothing excellent
Nothing I can think of.
Nothing I can think of.
Nothing I would say I disliked, but I do have suggestions for improvements.
Nothing in particular.
Nothing it was a well run event
nothing jumps out at me.
Nothing major.
Nothing major. I had some confusion about when a bus was going to pick me up to take me to the starting point. But I ended up there on time, so no big deal.
Nothing negative, it was a great experience.
Nothing not to like.
Nothing other than the heat.
Nothing really.
Nothing significant.
Nothing that I can think of. The portable restrooms were actually pretty clean!
Nothing that I can think of. It was great!
Nothing that I really didn't like.
Nothing to complain about
Nothing to complain about. It was great
Nothing to complain about...great job!
Nothing to not like.
Nothing to report.. it was truly the best race I have ever done, and I do a LOT of races.
Nothing worth mentioning. Enjoy your success with this event.
nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!

Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing!
Nothing! After 4 years of doing it I always look forward to it and kind of know what to expect.
Nothing! It was great!
Nothing!!
Nothing!!
Nothing!!!
Nothing, all good.
nothing, gear race!
Nothing, great as always
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing.
Nothing. Everything was spectacular.
Nothing. It was almost perfect.

Nothing. This is only my second half-marathon, but I thought that it was well-organized and well-supported by the community. As far as I'm concerned, those are the 2 items that make or break an event like this. Well done Missoula.
Nothing. Was great.
Nothing. First marathon, I have nothing to compare it to. But I loved the experience!
Nothing. I can't think of any negatives.
Nothing. It was all great.
nothing. my time could have been better
Nothing....this event was FANTASTIC!

Nothing...except that the half marathon marker seemed/was off by at least 1/10th of a mile. (per everyone's GPS).
nothing...just keep doing what you are doing.
Nothing; everything was fine!
Noticed shortage of water at finish line for late marathon finishers
Number sticker didn't stick to pick up bag- had to borrow packaging tape from hotel front desk.
On the map, there was supposed to be at least 2 cliff shot stations for the half, I only ran past one. Maybe I was too fast by the tables before they set up?

On the race day, before the award it was very quiet even though many people were hanging around the area, so if there were more activities such as a live music or just playing music with better sound(the sound was not loud enough) would make the atmosphere more cheerful and vivid.

One memory that still remains is the lady at the drink bins at the finish line telling me one drink only when I dared ask for both a powerade and a water.

Only gel packs forever....would love a bit more variety in energy options (i.e. sports jellybeans, gummi bears, and the like). Gel does not agree with me and was disappointed to only have that as an option. I have participated in other long organized runs where the energy food is more diverse.

Only glitch was not telling people that stickers were not in bag & would be picked up next day. Also a friend was injured and there was not much help in getting him home.

Only one beer! and 6 am is a little early, the 20 other halves I have done have started at 7.

Only one complaint - the aid station after Mile 20 ran out of ice. Very disappointing because that was when it was just starting to get hot. I'm sure a lot of people behind me were disappointed.

Only small things. The course was cluttered with walkers near the end. I would have liked the Gatorade & water stations to have been spread out a little farther apart (so that I could keep my pace and get a little of each).

only the pain afterwards:)

Only thing negative was that it got too hot, but you can't control that. I've ran 33 marathons (with Ultras), and this race was among the top 5.

Open roads.

Other than the pain in my heel....I did not like that from mile marker 12 to the finish line, it seemed like an eternity....LOL! Why does the last mile, in a race, always seem to take far more time than it took to go the other miles?

Othing

Out of all the mentions in the local news paper I didn't see the guy with the grand piano mentioned. I do plan on writing a letter to the editor of the Missoulian thanking him and everyone else like I did the year before when I came to watch my husband race and had to get around with sever back pain.

Overall, good event - no real problems. Maybe add more to the post-race meal?

Overall, I would say that it was a really well done race. Currently, I am really happy about finishing so do not have anything bad to say. I guess the one thing would be the virtual bag. While I am green and understand the drive towards this... also because it is cheaper for vendors, one thing that I always love about going to Expos is trying new things. The availability of having things "in hand" drives more people to purchase... ie Kamut was handing out samples... as a result I tried and liked the product and will purchase them. The virtual bag is less of an attractant to those products and I may not ever "cash" in on the products.

Overpriced for a MT half marathon.

P. A. System at the start of the half was not working properly.

PA system at start was too quiet. I know I missed directions given there. People keep cutting corners, confusion along the course. Everyone's wearing headphones? Maybe a bud in one ear is okay, but it is just not safe. I saw one guy run right in front of a trooper and almost get run over as he crossed the vehicle lane to poop in the weeds.

Pacers were advertised but they weren't there.

Packet pick up ended too early - it would be nice to have it open until 6 or 7 for travelers

Packet pick up long lines

packet pickup ending at 1600 Saturday, too early

packet pick-up felt weird and disconnected, could we get some freebie energy stuff in the race bag. I didn't utilize and won't utilize any of those things the virtual bag.

Parking

Parking at start could be better.

Parking at the expo.

Parking can be tough at the Half start, we always have a sherpa since family still lives there. Also, the start announcer said they may wait another 10 minutes before race start - possibly due to busses, and then one minute later the call to the line was announced. We were ready, but had we decided to go to the "can" one more time, we would have missed the gun time.....could have been a show stopper for us.

Parking congestion. Being unfamiliar with the area, we had some trouble figuring out where to park when we went to packet pickup & when my family came to see the race finish. We have a large vehicle, which made it more difficult.

Parking downtown is difficult. Could there be separate pick up sites for the half and the whole, maybe just a few blocks apart? Not sure how you would coordinate that, but it is really my only issue.

Parking downtown to catch the bus. Needed a bit more organization getting on the buses.

Parking for trade show and finish was very tough.

parking is confusing

Parking was a little tough downtown, but buses ran smoothly.

Parking was difficult, but it always is a problem with a group that size.

Parking was difficult. Maybe different pickup sites for the half and the whole, nearby to each other.

Parking was more difficult than we expected. We thought there was going to be enough parking in the parking garage but it was very limited.

Parking! Not enough for the amount of activities. Driving downtown.... Have to sit at a light three or four times before you can make a turn because the pedestrians are not patrolled. Need traffic turn lights to help this paying so much \$. i know it goes to charities, but that's a hefty chunk of change for a college kid.

PEOPLE WERE WALKING IN THE BEGINING WALKERS SHOULD NOT GO UNTILL ALL RUNNERS ARE STARTED

People who didn't use the buses provided and backed up traffic so those of us on the bus couldn't get to the start as soon.

personal reasons---need to get more fit for 2013

Please consider making separate lanes on Higgins St. Bridge for the walkers and relay teams, half and full marathoners. I witnessed many relay teams, walking and skipping , 4 people across, as marathoners tried desperately to dodge around them. If these marathoners are trying to qualify for Boston, it is extremely unfair to them for the people who have little "race day" etiquette. Please stress in the training classes, slower walkers and runners should stay on the right! Other than that, a huge round of applause to the Missoula Marathon Committee!!!!!!

Please print more posters next year, almost didn't get one!

plenty of aid stations but limited number of pot a potties

Porta Johns are an issue; never seems to be enough.

Portapotties at the start were a little odd with the 90 degree arrangement. Lines looped around and were somewhat disorganized.

Porto toilets after the start, no energy bars or fruit at checkpoints, which is nice after a few miles

Possibly more portable pottys, especially on the full marathon.

Possibly a few more water stops in the earlier parts of the race.

Possibly the only thing was the heat, which was beyond everyone's control!

Post race food wasn't the best.

Post race food, not too bad, but not too exciting.

Pre race communications regarding bus pickups and routes - where to park etc

Process at the expo. Everything should be done in one spot..getting your bib, bag etc. too many lines to have to go through

quicker marathoners running through slow half marathoners, especially with the winding course and all the intersection planters the last couple miles, difficult to navigate.

race bag stickers didn't stick

Race results were incorrect at finish. Early starters were not noted so results and awards were messed up.

Ran into some congestion near the end of the race caused by large groups of walkers. These weren't runners who were tired; they were folks who walked the half marathon. For the record, I'm not a fan of walkers at marathons. A marathon, imo, is a race to be run, or at least run/walked. There are plenty of endurance walks throughout the country, and you don't see runners showing up at those trying to run them. In races with capped registrations, walkers potentially prevent runners from entering the race. In all races, walkers create congestion, as I experienced near the end. When runners tire and neat to walk, they tend to get over to the side of the road and let fellow runners run by. The walkers I ran into at the end were in large groups in the middle of the road, and while they were cheering for us runners, they lacked the courtesy to move over to the edge of the road to make room for runners.

Really didn't have any complaints

Really, only 1/3 banana after???

registration process was a little unclear - could do with some better signage and/or simplification

Road surface was a bit rough in second half, some of the lead runners had to contend with walkers from the half which can be challenging.

Rude volunteer!

Running 13.1 miles makes your legs sore for a few days!

Running into half marathon walkers was congested and annoying. Half split was off.

Running on Sunday.

Running south when I know the finish line is North! That metal aspect of the route kicked my ass!

running that far

SATISFIED

Selection of finish line food. I'd like to have cold chocolate milk and soft chocolate chip cookies added. If they were there, I missed them.

Seriously, there is nothing bad I can say about this race.

Shirt was blah. First 10 miles of the course got a bit old- great scenery, but I like a twist or turn to keep it interesting. Not a big Gatorade fan.

should have better explained post marathon activities.

should have had an opportunity, no matter how early, to get your packet the morning of the race. had to spend \$400 on a hotel room I was in for 6 hours in order to make the 9PM deadline.

shuttle out to start, had to wait in line 25 min, then 25 min ride out to frenchtown. last 4 miles too windy with many turns

-signage and directions at packet pickup were inadequate (looked like I was signing up to be a Hellgate Knight from the signage above the registration tables). When approaching the tent from any side but the north, it was not obvious where to start the re

Since my family suggested at last minute, The cost was dear. I wish I had known about it earlier. I could do without the noisy start. Not a fan of fire crackers. The first small valley was so lovely to run through, the bird song just before the morning sunrise. How unusual for a marathon course!

Since the photo download is supposed to be free - I hesitate to complain too much about the lack of course photographers. As a 5 hour marathoner we would like to have our photos taken too - not just the fast people. We saw 3 photographers on the course and one of them was taking photos facing the other way. Also, the half way point - 13.1 timing mats were not in the right place. Yes- we noticed. It was the talk amongst the runners at the airport the next day and on many running forums. If this has to be the case, then it should be announced so that we know what to expect. Many of us depend on predetermined pace decisions, and a miss-placed marker at a pivotal point in the race can cause a lot of problems and confusion.

Slightly chaotic getting off the bus, using the port-a-potties, bag check, at the start line.

smelly bathrooms, but what can you do.

snacks afterwards; lack of space to stretch afterwards

so many turns at the end of the course

Some of the football teams at the water stations were so enthusiastic I had to go into oncoming traffic to get handed a drink of water. For the walk, the number one water station was not set up in time.

some times it felt like a few on staff thought half marathoners were second class racers.

Somehow the chip computer didn't know I started at 5 AM.

some of the water station were not ready with water/empty cups

sorry, can't think of anything

Sound system at beginning of race. Could not hear the national anthem. Maybe a recording would be better. Sound system at the awards ceremony.

Sound system at start of half kept on breaking up. Bag check - need info on which go here on both sides of the bins/boxes. Crowds for the port-o-lets not organized.

Sound system at the half marathon start kept cutting out. No countdown to the start, i.e., 10, 9, 8, etc.

Sound system was a little off.

Sound system was too loud

Staff limited me to one sports drink after I finished the race! Food selection was very limited post-race. Expected much nicer shirt - horrible orange color!

staging area and start area for half marathon seemed small. May need to look at that if the race gets much bigger.

Start line sound system was poor. Should be more port a potties along course and at start.

Start was pretty congested. Would recommend a wider, longer starting chute that would allow better seeding. But that is a minor issue in an overall outstanding race.

Starting the race through a narrow chute was not ideal as there wasn't sufficient room for people who wanted to run with pace groups to get into their pace group.

stickers for the race bag not delivered during check in, and then were not sticky! the half point was not where it was written on the ground.

Suburbs

Summer heat!!!

Take down of the food, etc before the very last competitor crossed the finish line. The food, beverages were gone by then.

Tech shirt was a bit cheesy snagged within minutes of wearing it that was a bummer. choice of tshirt or tech shirt would be nice

temp, which you had not control of.

That I didn't get to run around/through/near the UM campus--it seems odd that the course doesn't incorporate the "landmark" for which Missoula is best known at all.

That I ran so slow. :-) In all seriousness I can't think of anything that stands out as a problem or dislike for me.

That it starts so late in July! The heat near the end of the race was very tough!

That I had to run 26.2 miles;) impressed with everything!

That my gel wasn't opened for me. :)

That the finish line announcer decided to recognize sponsors (rather than me) during the time that I was crossing the finish line. :-)

That there were no coconut popsicles like last year!

That with only a few miles remaining you turn and run away from the finish! It is horrible on the mind! :-)

The "race bag" was a little thin. Not a fan of the electronic version. Last year we had all sorts of flyers for upcoming races, vendors, local businesses with coupons, etc. this year there was none of that.

The 1/2 is growing fast and you need to think about a starting groups 5 minutes apart. The 1st two miles are so crowded that it was hard to get up to my race speed.

the 6 am start is sooooo early! In the past we had fun street chalk sayings or messages of encouragement. These seem to have gone away.

The age groups in the 5K My son is 6 years old and is a good runner. He ran the 5K and was ahead of all 9 years and younger. For him to compete against a 14 year old age group is not good.

The aid stations listed on the map helped me to plan out when I would request gel, however, it the mile markers had changed. It turned out okay for me, but others in my group did not get gel when they had planned.

The aid stations were great but there wasn't any water jugs to fill my hand held water bottle like there was in 2011. It slowed my pace down to ask the volunteers to track down there pitcher to help.

The altitude got to me since I've trained at sea level, but obviously that isn't something you can change :)

The amount of people and the space in the half marathon, made it difficult to run.

The availability of a recovery protein shake or a nice cold chocolate milk would have been great at the finish area.

The backup to get to the starting line from downtown.

The bus organization was not the best this year.

The bus system seems to work well, but it would be nice if there were a way to have the busses leave at a set time that wasn't 2 hours before the race started--

The bus system that takes the runners to the starting points weren't very clear as to which buses went where. Especially at 4:30 in the morning a lot of clear directions are necessary since it's that early in the morning.

The busses seemed to be running a little slow at the parking garage that morning.

The busses were running a little slower this year it seemed.

The color of the shirts - who looks good in those colors? Not many!!

The color of the shirts for the 1/2; so disappointed!

the color of the tech shirt was not good. I didn't like that part.

The confusion when picking up my packet at the Expo. Had to go three different places, no one explained where to go next and what to do--I had to ask. My bag (& others) had no sticker to put my number on the bag for pick up after the race. Also, I had no idea I could pick up my race info from the Competitive Timing table until I happened to see a friend who had hers and asked where she got it.

The congestion at aid stations where the relay teams passed off. Hard to run through with all the people in one area. Saw a few people run into each other trying to get out of the way for others to get water.

The cost- a little too expensive.

The cost of the race was an issue for me. I also didn't like when I finished the race, there was no postings of how to get out of the internal gate area, and I had to walk around quite a bit to find the exit. I also didn't like how few mile markers there were. Knowing where you are in the race for often would have helped. I was also dissatisfied that the only gel packs were at mile 10 for the 1/2 marathon.

The cost.

The cost; the start time -- it was starting to get warm when I finished

The course is a bit monotonous.

The course on the city streets in Missoula- I preferred running along the scenic route the first half of the race.

The cramp that I got in my calf at mile 18. ;)

The crowdedness of the Expo and the sticker thing for the gear bags was unclear - we did not get ours until the day of the race because I didn't know about picking them up. I thought they should have been in the bags.

The dropoff area at the race start was insufficient to accommodate the runners. It was just too small/difficult to access. Also, got spoken to "sternly" by woman in charge of handing out water at very first stop post-finish line. I had just run the Seattle RnR HM a couple weeks ago, and was spoiled I guess by the huge amount of free drink and food at the end. So it didn't seem strange to me to grab both a water and a Powerade. She yelled at me to only take one of the two. It kind of shocked me. I wasn't trying to be greedy, but just trying to recover. (I took one small piece of bagel and banana at the end; I didn't take any of the GFS prepared food because it was too heavy for immediate post-run.) She said something about more water stations later, but I certainly didn't see any. I was glad my family was there with more drink waiting for me.

The end drives me crazy. Knowing I'm running away from downtown and knowing the finish is right there is quite the mental challenge.

The end was a bit cramped and congested. I didn't like having stations every 2 miles, more often would have been better.

the end was a little confusing. missed the pictures and wasn't sure where to go.

The energy gels came pretty late in the half-marathon. I really could have used some around mile 4 or 5.

The entry fee is high for the community to continue to support the race year after year.

The excessive fireworks. It seemed to be a waste of money--it was light out so they really could not be seen. Overall, one short burst would be fine, but even that money could be spent elsewhere--whether to reduce the registration cost or...

The expo area seemed very small and crowded. We did not stay and enjoy after the kids marathon because it was too crowded. At the finish it seemed to take a long time to "get out". I did not get any snacks (I got fluids) because the line was long and again it seemed to be a bottle neck at the food. So my wife and I both skipped the food.

The expo didn't have a variety of food or any big sponsors.

The expo is disappointing. The entry fee is too high.

The expo was a little bit crowded and convoluted...I felt like they jammed everyone in the tent and it was hard to move around the vendors.

The expo was disappointing

The expo. Hard to find parking. The space seemed crowded, jumbled, and chaotic. My kids were hot and complaining so I got out of there as fast as I could. Also traffic during the race. Police tried to accommodate everyone including cars crossing the course. This led to multiple car/runner encounters that were uncomfortably close.

the fact that for me there was no celebration after the run. This was my first run I would like to have more of a celebration for that than the day before.

The fact that nowhere along the race route was there a timer. My watch died right before the race so I had no idea at any point what the gun time was. This was disappointing as many races have run time periodically along the route

The family meeting area was disorganized per my spouse. She had the map and it didn't look right. Asked a volunteer by the bag pickup after the race and they had no idea where to meet. Would be nice if they had more family activities during the event while family runs. Caras Park is very family focused and it could be a very cool addition to the race.

The final 8 miles through town were a bit boring and not too scenic. Although I really liked the Higgins bridge finish.

The finish line photos were not good at all. I had a picture at the finish of the race but not with the Finish banner or time in the picture. My son has a partial of the finish banner in his picture. It was my first marathon and it would have been nice to capture the moment. But hey, they were free. I did NOT like that hill we ran over. Please remove it. Just kidding, I need to work out on hills more.

The first 10 miles were a little boring since it was a straight shot down a 2 lane road, but it went fairly quickly.

The first and second aid stations on the 1/2 course need more toilets. The lines were so long I "held it" until the 3rd station, which I'd rather not do. Just two more would probably do the trick! I'd rather the free beers were in the runners only area. I coulda killed for a cold beer with my pasta plate and cheese stick. Maybe Big Sky could do that? Can't drink all day if you don't start at 8:20am, people.

The first available toilets were too far into the race.

The food is not all that appropriate for the morning run. GFS is awesome but the two salads they presented first were totally unappetizing after a long, hot run. I may be alone in this but the bagels, string cheese, and fruit were all winners. Salads...not awesome. The gels on the other hand...very much appreciated!

The gear bag labels didn't stick.

The gels were only handed out at one table at the end of the half marathon. It would have been nice to have gels around mile 5 or 6.

The half is expensive

the half way timing mat was off

The half-marathon is jammed up at the start due to the large number of runners. It took a few miles for the runners to spread out so that a clear path was available to run a determined pace.

the heat

the heat

The heat

The heat is the only downside. Maybe I should just run faster, then it wouldn't be such an issue. :)

The heat made it difficult, but you have no control over that. You had plenty of water to help runners make it to the finish. When nearing the end of the marathon in the residential area, several intersections had a sign posted warning drivers of runners on the road, but no one to control traffic. Tired runners had to be wary when entering these areas.

The heat towards the end, but you can't control the weather.

The heat which you can't control. I also didn't like having a darker color shirt, prefer light colors.

The heat! :) But nothing to be done about that.

The heat!!!

the heat!!! when i got done (close to 12 noon) the temp was in the 90s. I don't like the hill from mile 13-16.5. I did it but it was brutal. Not enough porta potties at the race start area.

The heat!!!!

The heat, but there is nothing you can do about that. :) This is a great race!

The heat, but you can't control the weather. So nothing really.

The heat, maybe optional 5:00 start for walkers and marathoners needed more than 4:30 hours to finish the heat.

The heat. Obviously nothing the race director could control.

The heat. Please see what you can do about making the race day high, 65 degrees. Thank you.

The heat...

The heat....

The heat...but what are ya gonna do!

the heat..though still not out of control when I finished! :)

the hill

The hill at mile 14. That was unbelievable!
the hill in the middle :)

The Hill, seriously, I can't think of one thing at this time. Which means it was a great experience. Oh, the Expo was a little crowded, and how we labeled our drop bags could be worked on. Labels showed up late, and then they did not stick to the bags. Name tags, ref Carmel, IN marathon. they had the bottom portion of the race number pulled off, with name on it and it was zipped tied to the drop bag. Sorry I did think of something.

The lack of aid stations became somewhat of a problem once you got into the later stages of the course. Fortunately I was carrying a FuelBelt with 4 10-oz bottles of CytoMax for my wife, but I could tell that the above-average temperatures, combined with lack of aid stations, were starting to wear on her, as well as other runners around us. Many first-time marathoners would not likely even think of carrying their own fluids during a summertime race in the Northwest, so this could prove to be a bit of a safety hazard. Another issue I had was with the layout of the expo; it was extremely crowded with everything underneath the tent, plus the proximity to the farmer's market brought in a lot of "undesirable" people; we could have sworn we were able to smell cannabis on the premises. I understand that in some circles in Missoula, the latter is permissible; however, volunteers may want to police the premises a little more closely for those coming in from out of town.

The last 6 miles...

The latter part of the half marathon course was okay...would have preferred a better course, more along river or through UofM campus. Finish line in the stadium would be AWESOME! If you keep the finish line the same place - make the sides equal space for spectators. One side was very tight. After finish, have a photo booth. Get rid of the "go green swag bags" online. I understand concept...but not a fan. Include some cliff bars, biofreeze, or other usable items. Have a beer garden for spectators and racers. Give racers first beer free. Would have liked to see some of the rest / pubs / bars participate in the weekend. I love Montana, went to school there, and always appreciated that community engagement.

The length of the hill

The line for the portable toilets at the half start line was quite long.

the lines at the start of the full marathon port-a-pots. I know there are plenty, but I spend my entire time at the starting line at the port-a-pot line. If I finish, I just get back in line because it takes soo long. I'd much prefer talking with visitors and friends, then spending my whole time before the start of the marathon in a port-a-pot line!

the local restaurants could not accomodate the "carb load" that some people like to do...that could be easily remedied if a local charity or business had a "spaghetti feed" and charged like \$700 / plate.

The long bathroom lines at the start of the race.

The map of the route for the 1/2 was not accurate and a little difficult to follow when driving it prior to the race.

The MC at the start of the Half Marathon had speakers that were not functioning. It was just a technical difficulty

The medals seem a bit excessive, especially in light of the green/virtual shwag bags.

The merging of runners, walkers, half marathon & full. I felt REALLY bad for the runners of the full marathon. Most of them starting merging with us 1/2 marathon walkers about mile 22~ just when they are running out of gas. Then they have to weave in and out of people. Walkers did not seem to notice or care about this, even though we were instructed at the starting line to stay to the side I really wish there could be a way to mark lanes or have volunteers reminding walkers to stay to the side If I was a runner trying to qualify for Boston I would have been really, really annoyed. I appreciated this walker friendly event, which is one of the reasons I came, but it should not be at the expense of the runners.

The music at the beginning of the race could have been more exciting to get us pumped to run.

The numbering system for the race bags was tough to use.

The one thing I did not like, and effected my race, was that there were not porta potties at each aid station as it was written there would be. I was forced to use the restroom at bonner park, as there were not porta potties at either of the park aid stations. As I was leaving the park at 8am I saw they were bringing in porta potties. Those should have been set up the night before.

The one thing I would change is the start. It might be a good to line people up according to their abilities as some other larger races do. It was a bit congested for the first 2 miles, which is to be expected, but that might help lessen the congestion.

The only complaint I have was that the sound system at the beginning of the half marathon would cut out on a regular basis. I couldn't understand what the speaker was saying.

The only complaint I would have would be the organization of the food tent following the race. It was difficult to get in due to the huge line. It was also difficult to exit the race area to meet with family after the race.

The only 'criticism' I have is with the handcyclists. Right after the start of the half marathon, a handcyclist came through the crowd at a very high rate of speed, weaving in and out of the runners. It was a miracle, in my opinion, that someone did not step over and get hit by him. I do not think they should be racing where the runners are.

The only dislike I had about the race was the restrooms available before the start of the race. There were extremely long lines at all port-a-potties so you had a wait to use the bathroom

the only organizational issue that we had difficulty understanding was that of numbers for the race bags. some racers received their numbers in the bags. we didn't, and after talking with others waiting for the busses, decided to run back to our car and ditch the bags before heading out to the race. we didn't know that numbers would be available at the race starting point. this is a very small distraction, however, and we were very impressed by the amount of support and organizational effort that went into preparing for the event.

The only spot that was very congested with runners (and a lot of walkers) was the short stretch on South Ave. which made it difficult to move at a comfortable pace. Several people including myself seemed frustrated with having to slow our pace and almost stop so late in the race.

the only thing would be in the 5k the age group for kids it to large 14 and under is very difficult for the younger runners to feel they stand a change in the awards

The only thing I didn't like was the price, and for that price there could have been more in the swag bag.

The only thing I would change about the event is more garbage cans at the finish (along the street, etc). I also did not like the way the finish area was constucted. It was very difficult to get back to see my family and see my sister finish after I crossed the finish line due to the metal barriers forcing me to go west on Front Street.

The only thing I would change is to have a better variety of food along the race course. Not everyone uses gel packs and other options are needed.

The only thing that I didn't like was the amount of porta potties at the half marathon start. It seemed like there would be enough but the lines were pretty long still. Maybe 10-15 more of them would help smooth things out a little more for 2013.

The only thing that I have seen better of in other races is the 'swag' in the bag at packet pick up - not a lot of local offerings/samples, etc.

The only thing that was a little more difficult was that the sticker with my race number wouldn't stay on my drop of bag very well, other than that, everything about that weekend went smoothly for me!

The only thing would maybe be to have more than just gels at the Aid Stations. After a couple of them they start making me sick. Especially in the heat like we had this year. Other than that everything was great.

The only worry I had was whether there were enough people gauging the level of distress of late runners in the heat.

The P.A. system for the announcer at the half marathon kept cutting out. Made it hard to understand his directions.

The PA system was having problems and would have been better without it. We missed the warmup bc we didn't know it was happening.

The pacers could have set themselves up at the start a little better. Things were pretty crowded together. Chocolate milk at the end would have been nice.

The packet pick up was less than optimal.

The pain in my legs :)

The pain.

The parking situation was a bit of an issue, but with that many people it's understandable.

The photographers gave us wrong info and said that we could return before 6pm to pick up our printed pictures, but when we showed up at 3pm, they were long gone.

The picture web site is based on a 24 hour clock BUT the times do not match up with the actual times, example I finished the race at 11:15 am but my finisher victory stand photo has a time stamp of 3:10. This time difference makes it very difficult to find your pictures. Too many pictures to try and look through just to find my photos. Other than that I loved the race.

the post race activities/booths weren't very interesting to us and the free "canned" beer was a bit disappointing.

The post-race food left a LOT to be desired. I have ran 5Ks with food options that blew what was available for the Missoula marathon away. A piece of bagel, some fruit and a little pasta? This was the most glaring error in my opinion.

THE PRERACE INFORMATION WAS TOUGH TO UNDERSTAND. I HAD TROUBLE WITH WHERE TO PICK UP THE PACKET AND THE SHUTTLE INFORMATION COULD HAVE BEEN CLEARER. THE START SHOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER SPACED. IT WAS A BIT BUNCHED UP. THE VIDEO OF THE COURSE WAS DISAPPOINTING AND I WAS DISCOURAGED BY IT UNTIL I STARTED THE COURSE. IT WAS A WONDERFUL COURSE AND THE VIDEO DID NOT DO IT JUSTICE... THE MAT AT THE HALF WAS A BIT OFF AND I THINK MILE MARKER 9 WAS ALSO OFF. YOU DO NOT NEED GU AT THE FINAL MILE AND THERE WERE PERHAPS TOO MANY WATER STOPS AT THE LAST MILE, IT MADE IT CONGESTED! I AM JUST BEING PICKY THOUGH, THIS WAS A GREAT MARATHON.

the protein picker-upper was offered too late

The race is done by 9 am but I am ready for a hamburger! There was very little option for eating after the race. I completely missed the photo opportunity at the end of the race. My friend and sister came in at different times. We would have liked to get a picture together.

The runners' finish area is too small and crowded -- lines for food, pictures and porta-potties all crammed together.

The runners only area after the race was difficult to get out of to see my family. It would be better if you could leave from more than one location especially if you don't have drop bag.

The runners only area past the finish line seemed a bit too long, with the heat and a minor injury it felt painfully long to get from the finish line to somewhere I could sit in the shade. Also, having only one entry/exit point is understandable but it made coming back to the med tent from the food/water area a bit tiring. The metal fence at the start line forming the chute also had some tripping hazards.

The shirt size that I ordered was not available at pick up. I feel as though if we pay \$60 we should get something we can use. Instead I'm now left with a very nice shirt I will probably never fit into. Also the stickers for the race bags were not very sticky and we found ourselves scrambling at the last minute to get them to stay on.

The shirt...

the shirt-orange and no real design

The signage for the loading of the buses the morning of the race. There was confusion with our whole bus load of people, 90 % of the people didn't know if it was the "full bus" or the "half bus". A couple "full" folks got off in the nick of time to find their buses. There was the same confusion the year before when we did the race. This was frustrating! We saw the signage on the roads as loading, but A LOT of people didn't. The bus drivers NEED to announce with every trip taken, if it's the "full" or "half" bus.

The sound system at the half marathon starting area was cutting in and out the whole time.

The sound system at the start of the half marathon kept cutting out but that's minor. I don't have any major complaints.

The sound system at the start of the half was cutting out and it was tough to hear. The cost after July 1 is pretty expensive. I know of a number of people who just happened to be in town that would have signed up but the \$80 for a half marathon is just too expensive.

The sound system that the announcer was using at the half marathon start; his voice would cut out randomly and it made it difficult to follow what he was saying.

The sound system was horrible. It kept cutting out.

The sound system while waiting for the race to start was continuously cutting out, which was kind of annoying.

the space between the concessions / restrooms, the amount available, standing in line for over 5 minutes to use the facility was a real negative

The start gate was very narrow and the pace runners were crammed together so there wasn't really a chance get near your particular pace runner of choosing.

The start is a little early, but due to the heat, I totally understand.

The start of the 1/2 was really crowded, but I was able to get a good pace going after the first mile or so.

the start was not very organized.

The starting chute was too narrow - I couldn't get any further forward than the 3:40 pace group so spent the first mile of the race running faster than necessary to catch up with the 3:10 group. I can't think of anything else.

The starting line needs more activities plus the announcer at the half starting area was having sound problems.

The starting line of the half marathon was total chaos. Traffic was bottlenecking at the drop-off area, and I waited in line to use the restroom for more than 20 minutes. I couldn't hear the race announcer from the bathroom line, so I had no idea how close we were to the start time and I almost missed the start.

The stickers that only barely stuck to the drop bags was a bit of a flop, but otherwise everything was great!

The swag bag of items was the worst I have ever seen at a race. The coupons were not applicable to a well rounded population.

the t shirt was not very good

The tech shirts weren't as nice as last year. You still need more bathrooms on the half marathon course. Stopping to go adds ten minutes to your race time. The lines were long.

The temps.

The time of the gun start was difficult, especially for those coming from other time zones. I completely understand the reasoning, and was grateful to finish before the day got hot, but felt like I wasn't as rested as I could have been.

The timing folks website is way slow and cumbersome -- plus their time does not match my watch time.

The timing system. I started my watch right after the gun sounded and stopped it right after I crossed the finish line. My watch said 4:24:36, the initial (admittedly unofficial) clock time for me supplied by the timing company was 4:25:07. Later this was changed to 4:24:36. What concerns me is that the chip time went from 4:23:33 to 4:23:30, so the difference between clock time and chip time went from 1:34 to 1:06. I don't understand this, it appears as if I was timed by two different systems. I can understand a clock time not matching what the clock visible at the finish line says (this happened in Provo in June) but I don't understand the difference between clock and chip changing.

The virtual coupons weren't popular with my out of state group. We didn't have access to computer printers so were unable to use coupons.

The virtual race packets with coupons for places I will never visit and the fact that I had to print the coupons off myself. I was also dissatisfied with the expo and how little giveaway stuff there was. Also, I feel like the price was too expensive for a private organization to receive it. I would like to see some of the money go to a local charity organization.

The walkers walking four abreast gabbing and chatting and blocking runners crossing the finish line whilst trying to qualify for Boston or PR. A solution would be start the half marathon walkers 1.5 hours early to avoid bottle neck. Too many chatty Cathy walkers blocking all participants... Way too many!

The walkers. Some were walking 3 abreast and I had to run around them. I would not run this race again if it included walkers. It wasn't clear in the race directions which mile markers where the Gels were located. I would have preferred GU gel rather than Cliff gel.

The warmer weather.

The water stations seemed a little far apart, and I would have liked ice on the course. Maybe add two more aid stations, so they are every two miles apart, and glasses of just ice at the last few aid stations for the really hot parts of the race.

The way the paper cups are just tossed on the road. I don't think it would be that time consuming to toss them in a garbage container. The containers need to be just a bit farther away from where the drinks are being handed out.

The weather. - Too hot!

The women's shirts ran small & the men's ran large. In other words, not much to dislike.

There could be a little more information on the buses, being a first time race participant (any race) riding the bus was very nerve racking and there wasn't much info on the website. Maybe have a volunteer funnel people to bus lines. We stood on Ryman, not knowing there were 4 different bus lines. My only real complaint (and it's a small one) about the event was when the first marathoner passed me at Bonner park, I was doing to half, the person spotting him on the bike said "Runner coming, get to one side, runner coming". At that point in the race I was giving it all I had, and although I was slow, it was a little disheartening to be told a "runner" was coming. I heard many others around me discuss this same thing. Maybe in the future they could say "first marathoner".

There could have been a few more restrooms at the starting line, I hate standing in line to go to the bathroom, this is extremely annoying when you are a sub 3 hour marathoner and should be standing on the front line of the race.

There didn't seem to be as many busses this year, or maybe there were just more people. This was our 3rd race in Missoula. We arrived downtown at our usual time and waited a long time to board a bus. We made the start line with 10 minutes to spare.

There didn't seem to be enough toilets at the first couple stations of the half marathon. Very long lines.

There is nothing I did not like!

There is nothing I didn't like!

There is nothing to not like

There is nothing to put here :-)

There isn't a single think I didn't love about the experience.

There may have been just a few too many sprinklers on the course ~ha! Pete the Pie Guy also left the Farmer's Market before I got through at the expo, so there was no pie for me!

There need to be more aid stations, particularly in the heat. There is little shade on many parts of the course and it would be helpful to have the aid stations every 1.5 miles.

There really isn't anything I didn't like. I had to pick up my packet at the Hub and later exchange my shirt for the correct size because they didn't have enough there. It would have been smoother not having to worry about keeping a shirt that was 2 sizes too big but the exchange ended up not being a big deal.

There really isn't anything I don't like about the Missoula Marathon.

there should probably be more bathrooms at the first several aid stations, there were pretty long lines.

There was no water left at the finish line for the over 5 hour finishers, so we made do with watermelon, popsicles and BEER!

There was not much direction immediately after the finish in terms of signage or instructions for how to exit the fenced area. There were a number of people wandering around all asking each other how to get out at the time I finished.

There was nothing I didn't like.

There was nothing that I did not like.

There was nothing that I didn't like.

There was NOTHING to NOT like!!!!

There was some confusion as to what was available to runners as they finished, Pictures, food, etc. Maybe include a little post race check list.

There were many people but that is something that is out of my control

There were no bags or t-shirts when I picked up my race packet on Saturday. Was told I would receive them at beginning of race on Sunday, instead only got shirt and race bag at the finish. Also, I've never entered a race before and don't have an appreciation for costs of running such an event but I thought the entry price was expensive.

There were no XL women's shirts...now I don't have a shirt to wear from the event, very disappointing.

There were not enough bathrooms on the course. At the breakfast after the race there were no plates. I did not want to touch the food with my sweaty, smelly hands so I did not have any. Also, salad is not very appetizing after running. I did not know about a lot of the events that were going on after the race like the free beer, so I missed out. Advertise this better next year.

There were not enough porta-potties. I don't like races that allow headphones, especially since this was a road race.

There were not enough restrooms along the course route, and the bag check was disorganized.

There were supposed to be cliff gels at 2 aid stations and there was only 1. The directions for the race bags, didn't get the stickers until day of race. Maybe have more on route entertainment???

There were times when I was wanting another water station the last half of the marathon. Maybe one every mile.

There's not much I didn't like. I didn't like the heat, but it wasn't awful.

There's not much to dislike! Perhaps a few too many turns in the last part of the race, and there were quite a few walkers walking 3-4-5 abreast. This was #7 for me, and I've run Boston and New York City, and Missoula is one of the best I've done!

This is a minute dislike in the grand scheme. Somehow missed getting my numbered bag tag when I picked up my race packet. I got it easily at the start and pinned it on. I loved the bags even though bag tags didn't stick. Maybe tags could be made to wrap around bag handles and stick to itself instead of sticking to the bag. Then material of bag would not be an issue.

This is minor, but the only thing that stands out - there was a little confusion at the full marathon shuttles in the morning. Had to wait ~5 minutes for a shuttle to show up when there was a line of shuttles for the half. No one there giving directions, people were getting in line at the front of the line.

This is not really anything that is fixable but by being on the slower side, most all the spectators have left along the course and near the finish line so it makes it harder. And once reaching the finish line, there isn't time to relish the moment ... it is kind of a let down because most all the food is gone, there wasn't any cold water left, chairs are being picked up and stacked ... felt a little let down.

This is the 3rd year that I've run the 1/2, and have purchased the race poster the last two years. So I was a bit disappointed that it was not for sale this year. In the big scheme of things, a minor disappointment. The rest of the race experience more than made up for not coming home with a 2012 poster.

this is the second time i've done this surer!!

This is very minor but it did not seem like there were enough ports-potties at the start of the half marathon for the number of racers. Very long lines.

This was my 14th marathon, and so far it is my favorite. Keep up the good work.

This was my 50th marathon and was one of the top organized.

This was my first time doing the half, I read the provided materials and based on that I did not bring any gels with me on the race. There were NO gels (or anything except water/Gatorade) offered until around mile 10. This began to get in my head, as a result I began to feel sick (having only Gatorade in you will do that). I honestly worried I couldn't finish. Had I known the gels would be in such limited supply I would have brought my own and I'm certain I would have had a better time.

This was my second Missoula Marathon and I have run no others. I do not have a basis of comparison and so can honestly say I do not have any dislikes at this time.

Thought it was awesome~ no complaints!

Time I had to get up! :)

Too few bathrooms at the starting line of the full marathon. There were no bananas available throughout the race.

Too few porta-potties at start of Half Marathon event. I would pay another \$5 for entry to haul in another hundred or so. I did the full marathon last year and this was not a problem because there were far fewer runners at the start I got on one of the earlier busses to start line but I'm guessing there were hundreds of runners who barely made it to the start ... see above - if an increase in entry fee meant more busses filling faster, great An oddity but still an issue: my race bag did not include the stick-on bag tag. A friend picked up tags later in the day. She was told there was a delay in printing the tags. Volunteers should have been told to pass that information on to runners; which would have solved the problem: i.e. "we don't have the tags yet so please affix some duct tape to your bag and write your number on it" then when my friend brought our tags we discovered they did NOT stick to the bags for more than a few minutes fortunately we adapted and pinned them to our bags! Finally - I totally missed the energy gel some signage and "yellage" would have been helpful

Too hot by the end.

Too hot for last 6 miles, but nothing you can do about that. Too much traffic on Mullin Road; restrict to emergency and race vehicles only if possible.

Too hot that day for me! I thought it was well organized and enjoyed the course.

too hot, but you can't do anything about that!

Too hot.

Too long a wait to use porta potties on the course. Need just one or two more per station

Too many turns toward the end of the race the street was sloped for drainage which was really hard on the right foot and hip. Running around the University might have been better.

Too many fireworks at the start of the 1/2

too many people/not enough bathrooms at the start

too warm...like you can do anything about that!

Tough they give freely and most are a great help at a couple of the water stops, water was thrust in from of me once to the extent that I had to turn sideways. Not too much fun when you are tired. The runners have no problem knowing where the water is and will reach out to get it. Might be good to tell them not to shove it in peoples faces or in front of them.

trophies were super lame and cheap

Truly nothing... Again I have ran several half marathons and I thought this one was amazing.

Turning south at Bonner Park - so close to the finish it was (mentally) hard to make that turn away for a few blocks. My eyes were closed in my post-race photo (in the finish area), which the photographer didn't notice/mention. I know they took thousands, but that was the only one for me :(I would have liked the photo staff to take more care. The Saturday expo was crowded and overwhelming (but perhaps I should have come post-farmers market when - I assume - the crowds would have died down).

unorganized - busses were late and got us to the start too late. The lines to the bathrooms were so long that I barely got out and the gun went off - many were still in line to use the restrooms when the race began. No one kept the walkers back and out of the way at the beginning so we had to dodge them. At the end, things were confusing. There was no place to stretch, just got shoved into the food line where the food was inadequate and not very good. No yogurt, no chocolate milk - just some macaroni salad :(and a little fruit. I was very disappointed. I found out later that there was beer down by Caras Park but there was no indication of that at the race. I had heard great things about this run and was disappointed in the organization

Very early start

Virtual Race Bag... Not as good as last years bags.

Waiting at the start for the restroom.

Waiting in line at MILE 1 port-a-potties... everyone had to go then and I was in line for over 5 minutes. Maybe put more within the first few miles because that's when it hits everyone!

Waiting in long lines for bathroom before the race

Walkers beginning before the runners. I understand the time limits for the course, but in other races the walkers begin at the back.

warm weather

Warm weather~nothing you guys could help and in fact there was plenty of water/gatorade to accomodate this. GREAT JOB OVERALL!

Was a little disappointed by the expo - small and not much to offer, but it was nice that it was in conjunction with the farmer's market. We spent much more time there than at the expo. The pacers (3:50 and 4:00 at least) started out WAY too fast and seemed to take several miles before they actually settled into a reasonable pace.

Was expressly told there would be a marathon poster available and there was not - this was very upsetting, as it was one of my primary reasons for signing up. Additionally we were not given numbers for our gear bags at the expo and had to drive back to late pick up to ask for numbers - and then the numbers didn't stick. Additionally it would have been nice to have clocks at mile markers - at the very least at the half, or every 10K. I was also dodging A LOT of half marathon walkers at the end which was frustrating.

Was looking for those cliff bar energy shots way before they were distributed for the 1/2 marathoners! Needed it way before the end!

We could not hear the announcement for the National Anthem and therefore people continued to talk until it was nearly half over. As an Army wife whose husband has been on 5 combat tours, this is a big deal for me.

We did ask for directions of the event staff and he had no idea where to park before or where to meet. Make sure the helpers are knowledgable of the area and are informed.

We didn't know the free beer after the race and massages were downstairs under the Higgins bridge- there wasn't anything we saw to indicate that when we were at the finish line area with the food.

We had to do the late packet pickup and when we arrived at the MSO Hub, they were out of race bags and shirts. This meant we had to find them before or after the race, which was a little stressful.

We liked it all

we need more people taking pictures

we ran on the right hand side, but most of the sprinklers seemed to be on the left hand side. Their day to water?

We ran with a jogging stroller and were at the tail end of the runner group when we started - the walkers started coming out before we ever made it across the start line, making it very congested. Other runners were caught up in this too. Kudos to the walkers as much as the runners for participating, but maybe make sure that all of one group has passed the start line before letting the other group start.

Weather was a little hot, but you can't control that!

Weather was hot!!!! Being from GA, hoped for cooler but what can you do?

Weather was too hot!!!! Please do not change anything wonderful event

Weaving around walkers that walked abreast.

well the one complaint you will have many of was the drop-off issue you had with the half---what a mess that was!! fortunately i was early enough but sounds like lots of people were late for the start including a couple buses? but my BIGGEST complaint was....when i went over the finish line i went to the tub of water/powerade and proceeded to take 1 of each...a volunteer told me i could only have ONE...one or the other!!!!??? first of all that is rather dangerous don't you think??? you've just run for over 2 hours on a hot day and are only allowed 1 water or 1 powerade??? really??? like i say i have run may races from 5ks to marathons and have NEVER been told i couldn't have what i wanted/needed to drink afterwards!!! and after paying \$80?? unbelievable!!! perhpas this particular volunteer had been mis-instructed but i couldn't believe it...i liked the option of re-filling your water bottle from the water machines but i still ca n't believe (and neither can anyone else) i was limited on what i needed to drink. so to be honest i headed back over to the tub later and took a powerade when he wasn't looking....unreal!!!!

Well, it was a little hot even at 7am (about an hour into the race) but I just kept drinking water at every aide station.

well, maybe a better color for the 1/2 marathon tee shirt. I feel like a pumpkin in orange. :o)

Went to pick up packet at the HUB. really appreciate late pickup but they didnt have a number for my back or a tshirt.

What can you say to a 99% perfect event.

What was not to like? Hello?!

what's not to like?

What's not too like.

When I finished the marathon I did not have my picture taken with my friend, because there was no staff to direct us to that designated area. I wish I could have taken advantage of the free photo to remember my great experience and the new found friend that helped me finish.

When picking up our race numbers there were no shirts available. I had registered in April and expected that the shirt, number etc would be available at pick-up. We were told to pick up our shirts at the "start" and place them in our bag and put them on the bus. At the "start" we were told to pick them up after the race at the Expo. I would have liked to have received my shirt when picking up our numbers.

Where were the bands? The only music I heard was piano guy at mile marker 3ish (halfmarathon), and one single drumming lady early on. That was it. And I kinda missed the music at the startline...it seemed to only be a guy talking this year and unfortunately his microphone kept cutting out. Though his information was interesting, I just still missed the pump-up music. Also the free photo area was farther from the finish line than last year. So far in fact, my brother never found it and missed his photo.

While the 1/2 marathon route was beautiful, I didn't like running into the sun for the majority of the race. Also, my bib bag with my racing number and personal information did not include the "zip ties" needed to attach the timing chip to my shoe. It also didn't include my bib number sticker to attach to my gear bag. I was irritated - seeing that I was missing 2 of the 3 required items. Thankfully I looked at this at my hotel room early enough in the day. I had time to go back to the expo and get the zip ties and also find out that the sticker numbers weren't printed for anyone. But if I waited until the evening to look in my bag - I would have been really upset - as the expo would have been closed and not knowing if I could get the ties at the start line - and would have not known that the stickers would be available at the start line.

While waiting for the bus, the people at the end of the line would peel off from the back of the line to get on a bus rather than waiting their turn. Also it's annoying that once people are on the bus, people don't move to the back to sit which leaves gaps of empty seats when the bus leaves. The signs for the full and half bus lines were on the ground so the signs not visible to those people in the back looking for the correct place to line up because the crowd was in the way.

Who could possibly have a complaint?

Why are the walking Marathoners listed with the runners? why can't there be a separate category with times listed? Wish I could have spent more time.

Wish I could run faster but then, who cares?

Wish the packet pick-up hours went into the evening. I had to work on Saturday and had to make arrangements for someone else to pick up my race gear. Pretty minor however, compared to the overall organization of the races.

Wish there was a walkers division.

Would have liked for the live video of the finish to not have obstruction (like a head with a hat on it as this years did). Also would have liked to have sound of the great announcer who was announcing in the end!

Would have liked numbers for the gear bags ahead of time

Would have liked the gels at every other station.

Would have liked to have a bit more coupons in the actual bag rather than just the virtual bag. too hard to remember to print off, etc

Would like a runners exit at both ends of the finish area

Would prefer a Saturday race and a slightly earlier start time perhaps 5:30.

You down played the very large mountain hill we had to climb. Also, broke down the finish area so fast, that us slower running came into nothing but clean up crews.

You guys did a really good job, I can't think of anything important or even little at this moment, seems like you listened to me from the following year and squared things away.

You had no control over it but I did not expect the heat. I thought Montana in July would be cool. It was comfortable at 6 am but by the end of the race it was very hot for me.

You need to move the fireworks like a quarter mile up so the runners can see them and run toward them after the gun goes off.

#NAME?

#NAME?

What suggestions do you have to improve the Missoula Marathon?

1) Long-Sleeve FINISHER t-shirt. 2) Better food/refreshments with a wider selection of snack food for better recovery.

1) Sweep the course for snakes prior to the start gun please

1. Provide more porta potties at the race start area. 2. At the second half of the marathon, even though there were plenty of signs, you should have police or race staff at the roundabout intersections and all other intersections because cars see the signs and runners and cars try to go ahead of the runners and can hit the runners. so by having police or race person there, motorists cannot try to outrun the runners. 3. Having a carb pasta dinner at night before the marathon at a local hotel, ie holiday inn or hilton garden inn. 4. If possible, have digital clocks/timers at certain locations of the marathon. 5. At the expo, there weren't much goodies to give to the runners.

1. Need a better start system - the chute was way too small for the number of runners. Could be resolved with more mats; a stop-gap measure might be a wider chute for lining up even if runners still need to funnel through the mats. 2. More spectators. 3. Somehow better signage/directions/ pre-race description of getting into the parking garage. It's very confusing in the dark with all the buses - it looks like you can't get in. We did get there, though! 4. Picky item that will sound ungrateful: I was an age-group winner. The awards are front-heavy with the horseshoe. Is it possible to slant the base of the award so it leans backward a little bit? It would be easier to see/read the inscription as well as being more stable on the shelf. I do appreciate the unique award and that it wasn't huge or fragile for the trip home! :) Note: I indicated that I'm unlikely to return, which is not in any way due to your organization, but because I'm working on doing the 50 states and the Canadian provinces; you have an excellent race, and I am recommending it to my friends!

1. The virtual race bag was a good idea, but by the time we got the email, we had already arrived in Missoula and didn't have access to a printer. Could the bag be sent earlier? 2. Since many of the vendors at the expo were for local running events, there wasn't much for out-of-town runners. Would it be possible to have more general merchandise available, such as shoes, books, Garmins, etc.? 3. Signage for runners was great but not so good for traffic in some places. While on Big Flat Rd, there were very few traffic cones and no signs that alerted traffic that runners were on the road. Although I was on the right-hand white line of the road, I was nearly hit by an SUV that came speeding around a curve behind me. And she seemed very upset that I was there, although I had absolutely nowhere else to go. 4. Would it be possible for runners to start early (at 5AM) with the walkers? Since this was my first marathon in a very different climate than what I'm used to, I was very nervous about finishing the marathon within the course time limit. Although I'm not a walker, it would be nice to have the option of starting early to relieve some of that stress. This may have been a good option for anyone in general who was worried about the heat.

1. Try to have a more disciplined start for the half marathon to better manage the crowd. Maybe assign and enforce explicit waves for faster runners. Watching the video of the starting line, it was clear there were lots of slower people (even walkers) at the very start. 2. Missoula is such a strong community and I get the sense that there were many people, like myself, for which the race was a good opportunity to visit the "home" where the grew up. It might be nice to track that as part of the registration process and highlight it at some point. I was fortunate enough to get a mention from the announcer when I finished, but it was a little weird to be identified as an "out of towners" (even though I am) since I grew up in Missoula. 3. Similarly, I got the sense that there were many first time racers/finishers (like myself). Might be nice to acknowledge them in some way.

2 Beers per participant. You only had a few days to take advantage of the discounts. Why not make them good for 6 months.

2 things pop into my head: more fruit at the fuel stations, and volunteers at the finish line to direct finishers where to go. This was my first marathon and I had no idea where to go after I passed the finish line, so in my state of exhaustion I just plopped down on the street just before the medical tent. So maybe some volunteers in that area directing runners back to the refueling area.

6:00am is a little early, maybe 7:00am is suitable. I have enough time to breakfast. Anyway, MM is a wonderful marathon. I really enjoyed. Thanks for all the people who work for the Missoula Marathon 2012.

7 am start. I can take the heat :)

A better explanation of how to get into the parking garage.

a bit windy through the streets at the end..maybe a bit more forest running

A couple extra toilets at a few of the aid stations might be helpful.

A few more organized bands or low key entertainment in the first few miles.

A free beer truck close to the finish would have been a plus.

A larger area for the expo so everyone can enjoy the entertainment AND the expo. But that is quite literally my only suggestion--the race and the race organizers were fantastic and I would recommend this race to anyone!

A little more shade along the course would be nice. And what about more than one free beer at the finish? Really, I thought it was a great race, and there's not much that needs to be added to it. Keep up the good work!

a map on the site to show how to get down to carous park. It wasn't clear, we drove past the turn several times before we realized how to get down. It was our first time to Missoula.

A need to encourage walkers to not hog the whole width of the course.

A race can never have too many Porta John's, runners nerves are endless. Thanks for a great Race, scenery, and hometown feel. please don't outgrow yourselves, and loose the nice hometown feel.

a shirt that would let people know the beauty of our area

A spaghetti feed would be awesome for the night before.

A time-split for the half-marathon would be cool.

A wider start gate would be nice (at the 1/2 course specifically), more timing splits along the way for each race. Keep up the good work, this is definitely a destination race for us for years to come.

Add a couple more manned exits so runners can enter or exit from finish area if desired at more locations.

Add a couple more port-a-potties along course. Have beer on tap instead of cans at expo and finish.
Add corrals to 1/2 starting line. More porta-potties at first several water stations so lines are shorter. Packet pickup was better than last year but still annoying to wait in line twice.
add more bathrooms to the starting line.
Add some more toilets to the first couple of aid stations.
Adding more food vendors and activities after the race.

After we were done with the half marathon, we went on the bridge to watch marathon finishers. I remember the bridge last year when I did the marathon-- as the day wore on more and more people were on the bridge-- kids were out in the road and marathoners were having a tough time getting by-- changing directions quickly (this is a relative term here!) at mile 26 is tough! Also, the relay seemed to be finishing right at the height of the marathon finishers (and there were still lots of 1/2 marathoners coming through.) The relay teams were coming across the bridge four across the road- and often holding hands. Then when you added the kids in the middle of the road, it got really tight for the finishers. I am not sure if there is a way to start the relay at a different time. It is cool to finish as a relay all together, but not at the expense of marathon finishers. Perhaps a volunteer on the bridge keeping people out of the path of the finishers?? (but not as anal as the ones at Couer d'Alene Ironman- they are just unpleasant! thanks!

Allow athletes in and out of the cool down area.

Allowing more exits from the post-race corral area.

Also, expected to see more energy bars/fruit available during last 3-4 miles when compared to other race events I've been on MN or CO. Invite bands to play along route. More room to select food/drink and stretch at end of race.

An option to start at 5:00 a.m. (for runners).

Announcement of booths/beer at the park after the race.

As more out of staters run this race each year, you should provide more info about other things to see and do while they visit Montana. We didn't plan as well as we should have. Had we planned better, we could have squeezed more activity into our visit. That's not your fault, but more info (links to various web sites) would be nice. Free photos had a slow moving line...young people staffing the positions were having trouble keeping pace. Finally, as runners finished, it was a little awkward getting back to Caras Park. And, once there, it was not as vibrant as the scene on top along Higgins St bridge. Not sure how to fix that, but it is a letdown when you descend into the park from the bridge.

As the popularity of this event keeps growing and growing, you may have to look at how the race is started. The area at the start was fairly crowded and if it continues to grow, you may need to look at how to better control such a large amount of people. I could see this grow to 10,000 or more people running in the event in the next 5 or so years.

at least one potty at each mile would be nice start of half marathon not many potties. finish line pictures would be nice,

At previous half marathons I've been to the pacers are clearly marked and are usually running with some sort of flag with the pace displayed. This would be nice for next year.

At the beginning of the 1/2 marathon this year, the line-up for walkers was not made clear and many of the walkers started off with the runners. This caused quite a bit more congestion than the past one I ran and there were a few points where I was forced to stop in the first two miles. This was a bit frustrating. I only heard one announcement regarding the location for the walkers to start. Perhaps next year the announcers can make it more clear.

At the start area, arrange the speakers so all participants can hear the announcements. After i moved to the start coral, I couldn't hear announcements or the National Anthem. Providing info on parking alternatives for out-of-towners would be good. Maybe designate someone as a Missoula ambassador and in the days leading to the event, have them send out specific suggestions for things to do, places to eat, getting around town, etc.

At the start, most people did a pretty good job of lining on their own according to how fast they planned to run (i.e. the people in front were the faster ones, the people in back were slower joggers). However, in watching the You Tube video of the start (half marathon), there were still a bunch of slower runners near the front holding up some of the faster runners. Personally, I noticed a girl in front of me about 3 minutes in, literally get shoved out of the way by a big guy. Perhaps in the future you could have signs posted along the starting area with approximate paces (i.e. 6 minute mile, 7 minute mile...12 minute mile) and have some of your volunteers down in the starting gate helping people line up.

Attempting to make the run outside of the city longer, just another mile or two would be awesome.

Baby pool at the end with ice and water for people to dip feet into - wow... does that help with the hot feet from running. Otherwise...you all did such a great job...oh yes... I loved the fireworks at the start - how fun was that...especially since I am from out of town and we had no fireworks on the forth of July due to drought conditions. Thank you for that fun touch!Great race overall and great time overall!!!

Bagels, bananas, powerbars for food. I do appreciate the GFS food, but it wasn't appetizing after running hard. :(Plus, maybe more clear info about what to expect for food and drink and more clearly marked info for food and drink stations.

Basically what I previously stated, just add a few more porta potties at the half start.

Bathrooms at the start of the race is probably always going to be an issue. I waited until I found a free bathroom and had to go about 4 miles before there was an empty one. So maybe adding more bathrooms at some of the beginning water stations might be good.

Because I am a "Cheap Montanan":) I was wondering if it would be possible to work with the local hotels/restaurants to have significant discounts via coupons or something specifically for Missoula Marathon Participants. Also, possibly a pre-race pasta dinner that is either complementary or pretty affordable for participants. I realize it is good for the local eateries, but it was pretty difficult to find a place for a carb type meal on Saturday night as it was extremely busy. Good event though!! I will be back!

Because I was so impressed with how well organized and how smoothly every thing went...I can't think of any suggestions that would improve your splendid marathon.....good job....keep doing what you're doing!

Beer at the end.

Beer available for ALL FINISHERS!

Being a "back of the packer", I would like to somehow help figure out how to keep the finish line open longer. Also, with my pace, there aren't a lot of folks that run the full distance of the marathon. It would be wonderful to figure out a way to get more people involved in running the full marathon that have a slower pace.

Best in the West!

better access to aid stations. (longer, both sides of the street, and more trash cans

better after run food and a place to stretch; ditch the metals - I will never use it - and then you can lower the price
Better communication about what is available at what aid stations. I would also like more nutrition options, such as real food.

Better education for walkers so that they can still be apart of the race without impinging on the race of runners.

Better food at finish. Chocolate milk (maybe even soy option?), bars, coffee. Was a little disappointed in the expo; would have liked to have seen more vendors (even local, non-running related vendors). Overall, though, this was a very enjoyable marathon and I'd consider running it again next year.

Better gear bag numbering system and also only give people the shirt size they order... Dont let them swap.

Better instructions for walkers when marathon runners were coming. If they would tell us at the beginning or on the website, that walkers should stay to a certain side, it'd be helpful. That way the runners won't be slowed down and walkers don't have to look around so much.

Better late pickup of registration material or at least have enough gear bags and shirts available.

Better org. at the expo...

Better organization for the bus lines, ample food for the entire time the race course is open and if you print how the aid stations are set up, please set them up that way.

Better organization of participants at start of half. Perhaps signage with pace goals to encourage slower participants to begin farther back allowing for less congestion for faster runners.

better parking

better parking options or have two different pick up like when the new parking structure is built have the half there and the full and the current location

Better post race food.

Better post-race food (or at least more variety) and organized in a way that made it easier to carry without multiple trips (either larger plates, pre-packed boxes of food, trays to carry the multiple small containers--something like that). More bathrooms at starting area (lines got pretty long). Timing mat for halfway mark was not at 13.1 miles--was past that point. It would be nice if that was at the exact halfway point.

Better queue system for bathrooms?

Better shirt (at least the color) and lower price. PA at half start kept cutting out. Would have liked to find out about missing gear bag stickers via email - didn't get message via FB.

Better signage to post-race food/amenities directly following finish line.

Better sound system at start of half marathon but no big deal in the big picture.

Better sound system.

Better sponsorships--e.g. the pizzas from Cafe Dolce last year. The event is pricey, and most runners aren't going to win anything, so some decent coupons would be nice.

better starting chute for marathon, too narrow of funnel to line up behind. use hammer products, they are montana made and great products! modify last 4 miles of course to have less frequent turns, maybe around university district?

Better swag and better shirts. When they said the group spent a long time putting the race bags together I had to laugh.

Better swag bag and lower price.

Better tracking of participants - name, phone number of emergency contacts on bib.

Better, way up high signage for the bag drop off at the half start. With so many people, I had a really hard time finding it. Otherwise this is truly the best half I've ever run! Great work! And AMAZING volunteers!

Bigger expo, more food at end.

Bigger starting chute

booth to print out stats could be a little closer to the finish.....going down all those steps after running that far was a killer!

Cannot imagine how this could be any better!

cannot think of anything

Can't hear the National Anthem or last minutes information as the generator next to the start corral is extremely noisy

Can't think of a thing. I had a fantastic experience and will definitely be back next year. Run Wild Missoula is a wonderful group of people.

Can't think of a thing. I really enjoyed it and have added another state in my quest to do all 50. Thanks.

can't think of any

Can't think of any

Can't think of any improvements! Wonderful job!

Can't think of any so please enjoy your success.

can't think of any!

Can't think of any.

can't think of any. nice job!

Cant think of anything

Can't think of anything

Can't think of anything right now.

can't think of anything! First time doing this marathon and loved it.

can't think of anything. nice job!

Can't think of how it could have been done better. It was an excellent event.

Catching the buses downtown was a bit hectic. Better signage in terms of where to line up to board the buses would be good. Kind of frustrating to wait in line and have random people just make their own line and get on buses before us.

Change month to fall

Change the course in the beginning so that when runners come back into town they don't have to run away from the finish. For example the right turn at Bonner Park. Kill a mile and a half somewhere else in the course and make the finish more of a straight shot.

Change the race to Saturday if possible, start earlier, devise a better solution for race numbers sticking to race bags for post-finish pick-up. The numbers didn't stick to the cloth.

Changing up the energy food and the intervals. For example, oranges at Mile 24 are messy and difficult to appreciate at that phase of the race.

Cheaper? Great 1st Marathon experience!

Chocolate milk as a post race drink.

Clearer directions for which buses take you to which starting points.

Clothman was really annoying

Consider adding running clock at a few points during the race route

Consider making sponges available at some of the later water stops.

Consider more professional signage and marking along the race route.

Consider pushing start time earlier or scheduling the race two weeks earlier. I think hot summers are a constant from here on out...

Consider starting the half 1hr later! This way, the families would not have to wait so long to view both the half finishers and the full finishers!

consider using different electrolyte beverage instead of gatorade.

Considering the price of running the marathon, the organizers could perhaps choose a nicer color for the shirt - the orange is terrible.

Continue with the family events at affordable prices.

cooler weather:) good job

correct the above (gels available at all aid stations EARLY), make bags/offers more exciting.

could have been a few more aid stations around the middle of the marathon course and more port potties in the first 5 mile

Could we actually run through the campus?

Could you change the final few miles so they aren't just zig zagging through the neighborhood?

Decrease the cost.

Different start time for half or different course.

Different start type - too many walkers in with the runners.

Don't become too big.

Don't change a thing, it was great!

Don't change much - this was an excellent race. The cost seemed a little high for late registration.

Don't change the course!! :)

Don't change the early start for walkers/BOPers-I hear it's a possibility-try to keep the course open for them-extend the time the course stays open.

Don't get too big to where it loses the intimate feeling of the race and starts feeling like a big money race.

Don't let it get too big. More & better info in the packet about when & where results, photos, etc. can be picked up. My other suggestions have to do with being more environmentally friendly: More trash receptacles at & beyond the aid stations -- one did not have any available; just a certificate would be adequate for participants rather than the metal plaque everyone got. Maybe plaques for just the overall winners.

Don't let it grow too fast.

Don't waste money on the gear bag number stickers. They do not stick, as you well know by now. Thanks for putting on such a great race!

drop the virtual bag

Due to the large number of runners in the half-marathon, I suggest considering some kind of staggered start, i.e., sending off runners in sections based on where they line up.

Each aid station that I came to was super helpful and very well thought put except the toilets were always full and I didn't want to wait and lose time.

Earlier start for everyone.

Either bring the price down of the registration cost, or add more goods to the bag to make it actually worthwhile.

Either move the area light away from the start corral, or turn its generator off when the sun comes up; have a live band on Sunday as well as Saturday; RE: Beer at the end, (really only a minor complaint, but), draft beer (instead of cans) will probably better inspire a party atmosphere, (but this might be an east coast bias.)

Elicit more community involvement.

Eliminate walker registration and the separate walker start.

Even more port-a-potties along the route.

Everything was awesome. Super good experience

Everything was super. I have run 65 marathons to date and this was one of the best, organization, everything included.

Everything was wonderful, my only complaint is I didn't run fast enough :)

Expand the size of the expo.

Expo could be expanded, but that did not diminish my overall satisfaction with the run.

Expo going later.

Extend packet pick up or have a map available for those who cannot make it during the time allotted.

Fargo Marathon leaves a space on the bib for you to fill in your name. The aid station volunteers and the public would cheer you on calling your name out - left a lasting impressiion. More music at start along with anouncements. Get the local cheer leaders out. These are only suggestions as this is one of the best running events anywhere!!!!!!!

Few more bathrooms at the checkpoints. Saw long lines along the way.

Figure out someway to let people know to pee before arriving at the start! People were pissing all over the place, cause the lines were really long!

Finishers shirts would be great for the full and half marathon.

flatten the hill at 14

Food early and often.

For marathoners that are in the heat we need a salt option, Gatorade wasnt enough to keep me from cramping I needed salt! Pretzels or potato chips, something with a little bit more would have been perfect!

For out of town travelers - you may have this and I just did not notice it - note there is a time change if you fly/drive in from Spokane. Not a big deal but I was saved from my goofup because there was a late packet pick up!

for the 1/2 it would be nice to have pace signs up at the start. We were all mixed together so it was hard to hit my pace until mile 2. I think pace indications at the start would help runners get to their desired pace much faster.

For the first 16 miles, the porta potties were well used... had to wait in line. There were on 2 or 3 at each stop. Consider more porta pots towards beginning of race... you can taper down last 10 miles since we are all dehydrated by then.

Fraid I can't help you! Good job.

Free passes to the waterpark for all participants. Include a restaurant guide and/or coupons to local restaurants. Overall, this is a fantastic race that I love coming back to. This is my third year at this race and I'll bring my family for an extended vacation next year! Thanks!

free pizza to go with the free beer

from 1 free beer, to 2 free beers.

From a long term health perspective, I think you should put more emphasis on encouraging people to walk the half-marathon. It is a realistic goal for most people to achieve. I ran the half-marathon. But, I think walkers still feel like second-class citizens.

Fruit at water stations.

fuel stop at 6 or 7 miles

Gear bag first, then food area would be better for me, because all I really wanted to do was get my sneakers off and into my sandals.

gel at mile 6 for the half

gel by mile 6 if you are gonna have gel. Otherwise I'll bring my own.

Gels or something sooner than 10 mile mark.

Generally a well-organized race and quality marathon experience. This was my first time running this marathon, and I plan to return.

Get a chocolate milk sponsor! There is nothing better than to chug some chocolate milk right at the finish!

Get more port-a-potties at the start and offer CLIF energy gels earlier in the FULL marathon

Get more vendors at the expo, with some giveaway stuff, i.e. energy bars. Let us know about trading shirts on race day.

get rid of anders bookers, or allow for disabled athletes to do the whole thing. We do it faster, and better than the runners.

Get rid of the wandering part of the course through the last few miles which may be difficult if you still want to make it a Frenchtown start. Maybe have gels available in a couple more spots?

Get some vendors with some healthy food options (and some unhealthy ones too) and get a big name vendor and sell some gear and get free stuff.

Get the word out to resident's who will be affected a little better. It's annoying seeing angry motorists out there.

Give out Clif Gel earlier...like at about mile five of Half Marathon.

Give the gel packs before the water/power drinks next time! Other than that, every minute was awesome!

gluten free post race options

Good Food store food is great, but more options would be nice...even bags of chips or something salty. A beer at the finish would be great too.

Great job!!s

great jog everyone, please keep it up loved it

Had a blast!

Have a dinner get together the night before. This is a cool feature at some of the smaller races.

Have coffee in the food tent. I always need coffee after a hard run.

Have coffee, chocolate milk, & gatorade at the finish line.

Have gummy bears available at an aid station closer to the half way mark of the half-marathon as opposed to mile 10.

Have held, oranges, and funny bears at different water stations.

Have more gear bags and shirts at the late check in

Have more local music groups, like the high school bands, to play at certain areas on the course. Band at the end of the finish line.

Have Nuun on the course instead of Gatorade. Have more inventory in the long sleeve marathon shirts for sale. I would have bought the Brooks raspberry colored shirt but only size small and x-small were left by Saturday afternoon when I was at the expo. I'm also disappointed I didn't get to see Jeff Galloway - he must have been at the expo earlier.

Have salty potato chips at the finish line. Have more air movement in the expo area--fans or something.

Have the event later in the year when it is not so dang hot.

Have the fireworks ahead of the starting line so runners can view as they start. Better food at the finish. Allow more than 1 free beer. On hot days have cold towels at or near the end to cool off. Have free massages instead of costly ones. (most marathons do). Have music at the start and on the course. Overall one of the top 3 marathons out of 40+ done.

Have the runners at an expected race completion time start in the same area rather than a free for all for position have the start line moved so the route goes back with st, blaine st, higgins and end of bridge

Have the walkers start at the same time. Improve the t-shirt design. Have packet pickup available on Friday also. I wanted to go sightseeing on Saturday morning but had to wait until 8AM to pick up my packet.

Have toilets available no greater than 1.5 miles from the start.

Having runners line up at beginning determined by their pace instead of free-for-all line up.

Having the expo outside is pretty cool, but maybe have more distance between the 5k/kids marathon finish and the expo along with having bag pick up not shoved in so close. Just spread out more especially with 5000 participants and other people.

Having the portapotties a bit after a water and Gatorade station not right with it.

Heats? Better virtual race bag

Hm-m-m-m. This was our first marathon so I don't have much experience in what works well and what doesn't. All I know is that your marathon was so great, and so fun, and so friendly and we are so excited to hopefully come back next year with more people from our running group. Thank you for letting us volunteer at the 5k at the last minute - it was fun too and we got to meet some nice people.

Host a huge BBQ And Beer garden (for a price) at the finish line.

How about a "most improved" winner for each race? (I am planning to improve - haha)

I absolutely loved that there were so many people who were either playing some kind of instrument, music or were even hula hooping! It gave me an anticipation for what would be around the next corner. It would really be incredible to have people set up to do some kind of entertainment all along the course - this would definitely be a one-of-a-kind-marathon!

I already completed a survey last week, but I'm glad this link was emailed to me again. I attempted to access my race photos (described as available for free download). I spent over two hours going through all of the Missoula Half Marathon photos and found 20 of my friend and I. The options on the screen, once I had located the pictures, were to either order prints (no option for free download, just various pricing options for different size and types of prints) or email the link. I emailed all of the pics to my personal email account but when I tried to access them again, none of the links worked. I again went through photos, trying to find the free download option, but it is not there. The only contact information listed on racephotos.net is for the Bloomsday Run and the Portland Marathon. Is anyone affiliated with the Missoula Marathon able to assist me with this or get me in touch with the appropriate individuals with Race Photos? The links to my photos are as follows: <http://www.racephotos.net/> 1304226 1304225 1286193 1286192 1272835 1282254 1282255 1277332 1277330 1268667 1268666 1268665 1292048 1289009 1292046 1289008 1301011 1296672 1296673 1301012 Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Best regards, Amanda Mueller Bib #4371

I always prefer more of a running technical shirt / singlet.

I am not sure what to say about improvements for the Missoula Marathon, because I really loved it! We did have to get up pretty early, but it was nice to not have to worry as much about the heat getting to us.

I AM SURE THAT RUNNERS WONT MIND TO START AN HOUR EARLIER, (LIKE HONOLULU AND MAUI MARATHON) IF THE WEATHER CAN GET UP TO 90'S. YOU RATHER BE SAFE THEN SORRY. AND ABLE TO GO BACK TO HOTEL ROOM AND TAKE TIME TO CHECK OUT. I REALLY DONT MIND TO HAVE A WHOLE DAY LEFT TO ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL MONTANA.

I can not think of anything that needs to be improved! It is such a great race and I alwys feel that Missoula comes out in force to cheere the runners on!

I cannot imagine what you could do differently. It was only my second race so I don't have any other experiences to compare it to. Thanks so much for such a wonderful day. Next year maybe you could have the thermostat turned down a little!

I cannot think of anything...you guys are awesome! I will definitely recommend this one.

I can't really think of anything more. I feel it is very well run and the people are moved efficiently to the race sites. I can't think of a thing

I can't think of any way it could be improved... except by having a local micro-brewer serving cold beer at the finish!

I can't think of any.

I can't think of any. We did run into one situation (no pun intended) that isn't the fault of the marathon - we went out for pizza following the race and the restaurant was under staffed- they thought they'd be slow. So we had to wait a long time for a table in a more than half empty restaurant. Several others walked out w/o waiting. Being from out of town and walking we felt our options were limited so waited.

I can't think of anything.

I can't think of anything. Thanks for a nice event!

I did like being able to start early, I might not have finished within the allowed time otherwise. I'm not considered a walker but I had issues with my knee around halfway. The early start allowed me to be able to slow down a bit so that I could finish.

I did read a comment about half marathon walkers blocking marathon runners toward the end. I ran the half and was not affected by this but could see it being a potential flow problem toward the end of the race. Likely could be solved with a friendly reminder to walkers to not walk more than two abreast.

I did the 1/2 and there were many runners who I think were really walkers and they started with the runners. They got 20 feet out of the start and started walking so I had to work my way around them. The microphone at the start of the 1/2 was not great either, it kept cutting out. I wish the cups for water and the cups for sports drinks were different. Didn't always understand what was being held out to me.

I didn't find it confusing to get on the correct bus, but maybe a larger sign for FULL and HALF would have helped those who did get confused?

I didn't find it confusing to get on the correct bus, but maybe a larger sign for FULL and HALF would have helped those who did get confused?

I didn't run the full this year, but from previous years I would say more gel/nutrition available for full marathoners perhaps at mile 8.

I do not have any suggestions, I had an awesome time! Thank you!

I don't have any, I think you guys are great!

I don't have anything too helpful for this box. Maybe some muffins at the end of the race? I was really craving one at the time.

I don't know if this is feasible, but I'd like to be able to register as a run/walker and start at 5am. But it's not actually that big of an issue, honestly.

I don't think it could get any better.

I don't think the medals are necessary.

I don't think the numbers for the gear bags for later pickup system didn't work the way it was supposed to. I didn't get one and I noticed there were a lot of people at the start writing their numbers on masking tape. Maybe the bag number can be in the envelope with the chip and race number. I don't know how sticky the back of the numbers was - my wife thought having a couple of extra pins with a number would work well.

I don't trust shuttles, would prefer to park at the start

I feel like the bus shuttle did not go as smoothly as it did in years past and for a person who does not live in Missoula, it was really unclear where to park my vehicle. The information booth at the expo was right by the stage and it was blaring music, which made it difficult to ask questions and hear the responses.

I feel that the statement regarding the affects of elevation was misleading. Elevation had a significant impact on my performance.

I guess maybe the only suggestion that I would have would be to have music at each aide station. I do not run with headphones so its always an added treat to be able to hear some along the way :)

I had no improvements I could think of.

I have nothing I would add.

I have ran in other Marathons that have scheduled less (or no) overlap with walkers. Let's be honest, there are 2 types of people that participate in this type of thing, and they are polar opposites. I would suggest keeping these two groups separate.

I heard a few runners comment that the start lane was too narrow. Also the mile markers occasionally got wound up so it was hard to see the mile. These are minor things though- I loved your event and plan on participating again!

I honestly cannot think of anything that could be improved upon. The race crew has thought of everything!!

I honestly don't have anything to say about the race I would change.

I know it's about cost but maybe go a few places deeper in the age group awards. Especially the groups that are larger.

I like Cola on the course. Sports drinks get to me after a while. I know most marathons don't offer this like ultras do but I wished they would.

I like it just the way it is

I like it the way it is.

I like when they have some more bands along the way. Makes it interesting!

I liked in earlier years when you gave out bandannas too, bring em back

I liked the Jeff Galloway walker training which I did starting in March. Please continue that again next year. Candace and Rolf were great and very supportive.

I loved the Marathon! More restrooms at the start would be helpful.

I only have one small suggestion. I loved the fireworks at the beginning but they could be a little further down the road so we can appreciate them without having to look backwards.

I participated as a walker this year and last. I think it would be highly beneficial for you to educate walkers not to go more than 2 people wide when the runners start coming through. I haven't heard people complain about walkers in the Missoula Marathon per se, but in blogs online about marathons in general, runners hate walkers because they are slow and in the way. I tried to always move to the right and stay as far to the right as I could once runners started meeting up with us but noticed several groups five people wide ahead of me that didn't even flinch as runners weaved around them. Maybe even hand a few cyclists a bull horn to announce the first full marathon runner and remind all walkers and slower runners to keep to the right from here on out.

I ran the half. The first 3 miles or so are my favorite. I'd love to have more of the race in a setting like that than through town. I realize that poses challenges with the finish being downtown, which is wonderful.

I really can't think of anything at the moment

I really don't have any improvements to offer. you did a great job.

I really don't have any. This is a fantastic race and deserves the great reputation it has. Hats off to Missoula!

I really enjoyed the overall atmosphere. It was awesome seeing the city come out to support everyone and see the people playing drums etc alongside the race. More of that!

I really liked where the gear bags were at the end of the race. The only thing I could think of would be to have the numbers in the bags when we pick them up -- but I think you guys already know that!

I really wish there were pacers for the half marathon. Also, I wish there would have been something vegan besides fruit at the finish. I know that's wishful thinking, but maybe there were other people who were veg/dairy intolerant who would also have appreciated it. Thanks for a great race!

I recommend a new medal category for people participating in their first ever full marathon in order to make the award ceremony/post-race festivities more accessible for first time runners.

I think it is a fantastic event and we are so lucky to have it here.

I think it is a top notch race! The volunteers are great, everybody and everything was GREAT. I just wish it was not a 4 1/2 hour drive away.

i think it ran great. thank you

I think it was a great race and don't know that I have any suggestions. Thanks!

I think it would be helpful to give out the number stickers for the race bags when you pick up your packet rather than race morning. It was confusing on the instructions as to where the sticker would be and I wrote on my race bag and saw others also create their own stickers.

I think it would be pretty neat to run through UM campus.

I think that the aid stations could be better spaced for next year. They were too far apart at the beginning of the half marathon course for about the first 8 miles. Then from miles 9-13, the aid stations were so frequent that I often did not feel the need for water or gatorade at each one. If they were more evenly spaced, I think I could have improved my time.

I think the competitive aspect of the Marathon could be improved. It adds excitement to the event. Specifically, I'd like to see complimentary entry offered to runners with a shot of winning (sub 2:35 qualifying time for men or sub-3:00 for women) and access to a VIP restroom in the start area. Those small perks would go a long way in ensuring that the marathon continues to have a deep competitive field.

I think the Expo was fairly small. I know our group looks forward to race expos to find out about new products and other events. It would have been nice to have a larger expo with more national and local vendors. More portapotties at the start would have been nice, the lines were long and several of us had to use the restrooms in the local convenient store. I know that you recently moved up the start time for the race, it still would have been nice to start earlier especially given the heat this year. Considering how early the sun rises, having more run time during the cooler temps could have allowed many runners to finish with better times.

I think the sound system at the starting line needs to be louder so people know exactly how much time there is before the start. I also think the drop-off system needs to be streamlined so traffic doesn't back up so much. And there need to be more restroom facilities. Even though it looked like there were a lot of porta-potties, they fill up quickly when you have thousands of people who need to use them at the same time.

I think the wheelchair racers deserve their own lane at the starting line. I saw one guy in a recumbent hand-bike that was just totally surrounded by runners and could hardly move near the start. Surely you could spraypaint out a 3 ft wide lane for the first mile, to get those racers a little space to warm up without dodging all us typical runners. It'd be a very nice gesture, and maybe you'd get a better showing from the wheelchair contingency? Just a thought. Also, at the buses, I think you should have a volunteer stand next to each bus door, on the outside of the bus, with a huge sign brightly colored that reads either 13.1 or 26.2 so that nobody boards the wrong bus, ever. It would cut down on bus-panic!

I think you could be more clear about where the finish was. Looking at the maps it looked like the finish was down in Caras park, not on the bridge. This made it confusing for my spectators.

I think you did a great job. It was one of the best race's I have done. I'll probably be there next year.

I think you need more course monitors on bikes riding back and forth to check for distressed runners. Also, suggest you outreach to the two hospitals for medical volunteers.

I thought it was nicely put together!

I thought it was outstanding.

I thought it was perfect. You can tell when running that the organizers have run many before and put a lot of thought into the race.

I truly can't think of any.

I was really looking for more entertainment along the race route. The piano man was great! I loved seeing how many people in the neighborhoods came out and cheered us on. However, I was expecting DJs or bands to be along the route to help add to the excitement and keep us energized. Other than that....GREAT RACE!!

I was satisfied with everything but the shirt exchange which was a small inconvenience

I wish I could give you better constructive feedback, but I really didn't notice anything that should be changed. One of the aid stations had gatorade in the water cups and I noticed too late and almost vomited up gatorade. If that is my only comment, I'd say it was a good race.

I wish the medal ribbons would have been a different color than the half marathon. It seems that races are trying to lump marathons and half marathons together, which is fine for the race course but they are not the same so the medal or ribbon needs to be different.

I wish the medals for the 5k and marathon were not the same since I ran both!

I wish there had been more neighborhood people along the course. I know I'm being greedy cause there were lots and they were great and also by the time I got there many of them may have gone back into their homes. just saying....

I wonder if walkers could have a separate, slightly later start than runners. Music on the school buses to get folks pre-pumped for the starting line?

I would have liked one or two more timed splits on the course, although I loved the free text message for family and friends at the half. More info for spectators on the website, specifically where to go along the route.

I would have liked to have had some entertainment on Sunday also. I felt more like celebrating after I completed the 13.1 than the day before. Just a thought. Have prizes that anyone can win.

I would just give the walkers a gentle reminder to not take up the whole course and not be more than 2-wide. Maybe something in their packets or have volunteers along the course ask them to bring it in a little.

I would just suggest having more shirt sizes available at the Hub or running the expo until 5 or 6.

I would like to have a few more waterstops in the first miles, otherwise, keep doing what you are doing.

I would like to have the statistic as to how many other women in my age group walked the marathon and what was my ranking within that group.

I would like to not have to run around groups of walkers from the half marathon the last few miles as they walk 4 or 5 abreast.

I would like to see a differentiation between runners and walkers. Maybe a sign up category & results. This was the first walk/half marathon of any type that I have ever participated in. I found it to be a very enjoyable experience.

I would like to see an option for early start for the half marathon walkers as well. Then we could enjoy the crowds at the finish and root on our fellow runners/walkers at the finish.

I would like to see it be a not-for profit event that benefits a worthy cause.

I would like to see more free samples of products at the expo, such as energy bars, drinks and such, like they have at other large races. Also, while I love the tech shirts for the race, I would like to see a cotton version of the shirt available for sale so I could wear it for every day use.

I would like to see the Expo even bigger and better

I would like to see the race course follow the river trails instead of using the city streets.

I would like to suggest that next year they have more volunteers helping to board the busses. Each bus holds a specific number of riders. If there was a volunteer at each bus who counted as the participants boarded it would have people getting on and then getting off because there were no seats. Also boarding more than one bus at a time would be more efficient.

I would love if you actually gave measurements for the shirts. If its gender specific, it seems like the women's shirts run small. I actually exchanged my women's L for a men's M. There were NO women's XL for some reason.

I would love to hear more music along the race routes....

I would offer gel packs sooner, maybe in mile 5 or 6 and then again in mile 10. I would post the miles signs more often, not necessarily every mile, maybe every 3? I would mark the areas of how to exit the inner gates after finishing the race because with so many people, it was hard to find out how to exit and find my family.

I would only suggest a larger expo area; same location but maybe a bigger tent or more tents for the expo. I was a little disappointed that there weren't more vendors at the expo. Other than that the race was awesome. Great scenery and wonderful support via volunteers and spectators. We will definitely be coming back next year. THANK YOU!

I would suggest a bit more entertainment along the course-maybe a few bands or DJ's? Overall, this was a great marathon and I can't complain too much! You guys did so much work to put this together and it is much appreciated!

I would suggest RWM to encourage bands to participate in music along the course, the way Bloomsday does, I know that is tough in rural parts, but do the best they can.

I wouldn't change a thing.

I wouldn't mind if the end of the course were switched up a bit. Less turns and such could be nice, but I do love finishing on the higgins bridge.

Ice bath at finish.

-I'd like a safe and organized way to be dropped off at the starting line in a private vehicle. I understand parking is not possible there, but I could have gotten another hour of sleep or more if I could have had a family member drive me right to the st

I'd like to see fully gluten free/wheat free options for the gels & sports drink, that were also available at Runner's Edge for us to purchase and try during training. But that's really not that big of a deal, when it comes down to it.

If I have to say something, perhaps you can offer water closer to the finish line, with the heat, it was a bit hard to walk about half of block to get to the water.

If it gets much more crowded in the 1/2, you might look to stagger the start.

If it's another warm one, maybe passing out ice would help cool runners down. At the start, the portapotty lines were very long and chaotic. I have been to several marathons where volunteers orchestrated people accessing the portapotties. It made the lines move quickly and fairly.

If logistically possible the marathon would be even more beautiful if the course was along the Blackfoot River. Running along the river with the trees and shade would be amazing.

If people sign up for the 5k several months in advance, please don't give their t-shirts to people who sign up the week before the race.

If possible to talk to people who have horses in pastures and pens along the route. Some of the horses were stressed by the activity but others could have cared less..not sure there is anything to be done and it is a minor observation

If possible, encourage those using the run/walk method to stay to the right at the start of the race. In the 1/2, many lined up together and made it difficult to pass. Perhaps have these participants start after the runners.

If the marathon keeps growing in participants, it might help to close the streets.

If the race keeps getting more and more popular, you may need to look at the start of the race and how that is run.

If the weather forecast is warm, you should recommend anyone who expects to finish 5:30 or slower take the early 5am start.

If the weather is hot again, maybe you could use some misters?

If you could improve the race that would be amazing, I thought it was very well organized and planned. Love it and understand why it was voted one of the best in the country.

If you could make my legs less tired, that would be GREAT.

If you have international participants and deaf participants, it might be good to think of other ways to communicate with your participants than just spoken English. It is no fun trying to figure out what's going on, especially at the finish line. When I had my picture taken, I thought that I would get it in email, but the guy said something I didn't understand and handed me the slip. Finally I saw the photo printing area at the expo. Try to think of visual displays of information whenever possible.

If you make the start at the Missoula Country Club somehow, there may be enough parking in the surrounding areas to accommodate, it would mean a 1.5 mile course change though.

If you were not doing so please allow runners in and out of the race end area.

If you were to put the person's name on their bib, people can cheer them on using their name. Both my wife and I have enjoyed hearing our names from complete strangers as we run.

I'm new to running. I think it would be fun to reward and encourage new marathoners. If you asked people on the application "how many half/marathons have you run" or "is this your first half/marathon" you could then give out an award for best new comers or something. Just a thought.

I'm not sure at this time.

I'm surprised there aren't more coupons for discounts at merchants in the area.

Improve hotel information in the marathon website

improve sound quality at Peek start-was too soft to hear well- was fine last year.

Improve the coupons from the local sponsors. Also the shirt in my bag was for the marathon when I was running the 1/2 marathon. This is something I heard from others that was an issue.

Improving the parking

In other races I've had the organizers ask for an approximate finish time and had the racers stage in corrals according to their pace. It was beneficial because the slower runners/walkers would be near the end when starting and let the runner go.

In the FAQ, let participants know that the gear bag sticker will be at the start. It is not located in the gear bag itself.

In town for the last few miles, have the walkers for the half on one side and the runners of the full on the other side. The Air Force Marathon did this, and it worked nicely, so that faster runners are not dodging and colliding with slower ones. This would be especially helpful at the roundabouts. Runners right and walkers left or something of that nature to prevent bottlenecks and runners to have to slow down.

Include paper coupons in the race bag. Maybe have someone do a final sweep through the finish area and where the aid stations are set up to make sure everything is cleaned up. Is there a possibility of putting up bleachers near the finish, maybe on the east side of the bridge, for people to watch the finish?

increase pot at potties by 50 percent

Increase the area available for spectators at the finish line.

Instead of making the runners walk through the entire path of the post-race area, I would suggest making booths so that there's more of a free-flowing come-and-go atmosphere. I don't like to eat right after I'm done running, so I missed out on the post-race food because I felt that I was in the way of people who were trying to get past me to leave the post-race area.

Institute two lanes in the last 6 miles of the course - one for marathoners and one for half-marathoners. Or separate the courses for both races. Less turns in the last few miles of the race. The misplacement of the timing mat at the half should be easy to fix.

Is it possible to run through the campus or at least by it at the end? It was great that every aid station had port-a-potties but the first few aid stations always need more than the final stops do.

Is there a way to scan virtual coupons on smart phones?

It ain't broke - don't fix it!

It is a great event

It is almost perfect...I will return.

It is minor but I did like the ice when folks had it, especially towards the end of the marathon 18-26 mile range. It was a great experience - how can it get better?

it was a little hard to figure out where to go at registration, but once I figured it out it was quick. I wish the marathon was in the Spring or Fall when temperatures are cooler. I am only able to run the 1/2 in Missoula because of my need to limit exposure to hot temperatures for health reasons.

It was a very nice race. Had I not been hurt I would have enjoyed it immensely.

It was a wonderful course, with great people. Keep up the good work!

It was all good! Thank you.

it was great!

It was great!

It was great.

It was my first time and I thought it was so wonderful.

It was nice they had a tshirt for the half and one for the full. The medal was so unique and different, but the shirt was just so so.

IT WAS PLANNED SO WELL--KEEP IT UP

It was terrific. Wow, I was in awe of all the details that were attended to.

It was wonderful

It was wonderful just as it has been in the past.

It was wonderful, cannot think of anything that really needed to be improved. Great Job!!

It would be a lot of fun to have stations every mile, to make the race more fun and go by faster. Stations could be a band playing every mile or something unique not even necessarily water stations but something you see every mile.

It would be great if the results spreadsheet was sortable or if it was broken down into age group categories.

It would be great to have Saturday training classes for those of us who cannot make the Sunday training classes. I would sign up for Saturday!

It would be nice if it could have started a little later. Coming from out of town with a time difference, trying to catch a bus to the start, I was up at 3am Missoula time, 2am my home time, which was challenging to get enough sleep for the event. I understand it gets quite hot, and I did get pretty warm - considering we were running into the sun, but maybe starting at 6:30-7am for the 1/2 could be an option. Marathon could still start at 6am of course.

It would be nice to have a better sound system with music playing. Having music playing along the course would be very enjoyable!

It would be nice to have more activities/entertainment along the route, such as bands or other types of performers. It would be nice to have more people cheering along the way, rather than just at the finish and aid stations, and entertainment could attract more people to come out. The yellow Gatorade didn't go down very well-maybe get blue for next year :) Also, it would be nice to have vaseline handed out at an aid station (for chafing) as well as spray sunscreen.

It's a fun race, it's just a bit boring of a course for me, albeit I run a vast majority of my miles on trails so enjoy more variety than road running usually offers. By halfway through my Missoula race I really felt "plodding" along for some reason. maybe it's the gentle incline, maybe it's the rarity for me to do that many miles purely on pavement. I was left feeling it was kind of a boring run, and I'm not sure why.

It's awesome and Runner's Edge rocks.

It's just about perfect right now; only one suggestion: more music!

Its perfect from my perspective

It's the best event I have ever been at. Well planned and executed.

Jokingly, I'd say: Convince the airline carriers to reduce their airfare rates into Missoula, so I can come back more often!!! :)

just a few more bathrooms along the course. especially at the beginning. Since I am a male I went once in the bushes, but for the women that's hard. I even wondered is they make a trough type urinal that is portable for the males. If not maybe MM could invent on for next year, and then rent it out for other races.

Just a tiny suggestion: If possible, assign a lead person to each aid station to help train volunteers. They were generally bunched too close together and if a runner was able to get over in time (difficult in a crowd) they missed there chance at water/gatorade.

Just add more bathrooms in certain areas.

Just have the same great weather and people

Just hope you work out dates with the Glacier Challenge in Whitefish so that athletes do not have to make a choice but can space it so that they can participate in both events. See you next year Missoula!

Just keep on keepin' on!

Just keep up the fabulous work! You put on a wonderful well-executed event and I am so grateful to have been able to participate. Thank you! :)

Just keep up the good work! Thanks

just keep up the good work1

Just keep up the great work, you have a great and beautiful race! I plan on telling others about it and have already recommended it in my blog.

Just keep up the great work.

Just make sure to put stickers in all bags to mark them as drop bags.

Just REPEAT as it was!!!

Just the above.

just the photo company.

just the race reg cost....thank you!

KEEP DOING IT!!! And when we get to the tenth year please give us "perennials" some perks! We love you Missoula and RWM!

Keep doing what you're doing!

Keep doing what you're doing.

Keep doing what you're doing.

Keep going. The organizers seem to really know what they're doing. The event and surrounding activities keep getting better every year!

Keep going:)

Keep having this marathon. Particularly if it encourages people to travel to Montana. Very beautiful.

Keep it as it is. It's just right.

Keep it relatively small.

keep it small/hometown

Keep it the same it was a wonderful experience!!!!!!

Keep it the same!

keep it up

Keep it up :-)

Keep it up!!

Keep it up!!!!

Keep it we can't wait until next year!!

Keep on doing what you are doing but even better if you can 0 GREAT JOB!!

Keep on doing what you are doing b/c you are doing it WELL!!!!

Keep on keepin' on!

Keep on keepin' on! :-)

Keep same - very good - maybe add more to expo

Keep the marathon date close to the 4th of July for traveling and ability to sneak in a long weekend/ vacation over a holiday.

Keep the price reasonable and that will keep us coming!

Keep the race unchanged although water stops later in race prior to 21 could have been a bit more frequent on hot day

Keep the same number of aid stations. Maybe add a couple more.

KEEP THE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!!!

Keep up the excellent work!

Keep up the fabulousness! Thanks for a wonderful event!

Keep up the good work

keep up the good work

Keep up the good work

Keep up the good work !!! =)

Keep up the good work!

Keep up the good work!

Keep up the good work! Maybe have food, beverages available until the very last person has finished. It was VERY hot, and the very last people were searching for water, etc,

Keep up the good work! maybe a few more porta potties!

Keep up the good work! Planning on doing the Marathon next year!

keep up the good work! Thank the police force for protecting the runners.

Keep up the good work!!! Very obvious a lot of time/effort/"man" power/thought & planning goes into it.

Keep up the good work. Offer more "events" the day of in downtown.

Keep up the good work....will recommend this one to friends!

Keep up the great job - it was so much fun!

keep up the great work

Keep up the great work!

Keep up the great work.

keep up what you are doing

Kids size shirts for the 5k!

Larger expo with more sporting retailers would be nice.

Larger place for the expo. And... erase the hill!

Larger-cut shirts -- my XL shirt is definitely smaller than other XL shirts.

late (evening) hours at expo

Later packet pick up

Later start time, and more room for the expo, the expo was great but it was hard to move.

Later start would be nice, especially for PST/PDT people.

let a woman pick the tee shirt color.

Let people have both a water and a powerade at the end. Had to choose, chose water and ended up with a headache the rest of the day because I didn't replenish electrolytes as soon as I should have. This is a minor thing in an otherwise awesome event!

let the people drink!!! let the runners drink as much water and powerade as they feel they need!!! and figure out that parking/drop-off issue with the half-marathon....i realize the race has grown a lot (as i did the first one as well) but there needs to be a solution to that problem, as i'm sure you are aware

Let us opt out of receiving a medal at the end and d

Let's try and add another 2000 runners between the two races.

Light color shirts and some sort of chocolate with the finish food, otherwise you do a great job, please keep it up.

Line up of runners at the starting line could have been more organized--different sections for different paces, etc.

list of entrants and their race numbers posted on Internet before race as a download for spectators who want to cheer people on.

Listen and act on any constructive criticism.

Little bigger area to move around in for pre packet pickup and expo. It was a little tight, but not too bad. If more people enter which I can see for the future it will need to be bigger. Thank you again for this wonderful, well organized, event. Best one I have ran in.

live local bands along the course, encouraging homeowners to get out some boom boxes and play some music while they watch

long sleeve shirts

Louder speakers at the start of the race.

Love coming across the bridge at the end, would encourage a band / music along the course in particular places and / or at the finish. Great race!

Loved it!

Lovely race. The expo was gorgeous outdoors but very crowded and it was hard to see what was available. It would be nice to have more timing mats on the course.

Lower entry fees

Lower price.

Lower the cost.

Make chocolate milk available at the finish line. Yes, a trivial suggestion - but I had to think of something.

Make it an automatic disqualification to defecate/urinate on the course.

Make it cheaper.

Make it cooler

make it easier to get the photos. you go to the website and it says it has crashed. do hope it is up before the July 31 dead line to get free photo

Make me a bit younger.

Make mile markers need to be more accurate. Also I would suggest corrals at the start to ensure a better starting space.

Make sure the PA system at the start can be heard in all directions. Once I moved to the start corral, I couldn't understand what was being said anymore. We also couldn't hear the national anthem.

Make sure there are snacks set aside for all participants, no matter if they finish first or last.

Make the corral after the marathon more of an option after the finish line.

Make the exits at the finish more easy to find.

make the start corral larger and have more room for each pace group, also have them get lined up sooner.

Maps, maybe a slight improvement. The expo could be better more vendors and activities before the race. There were no spectators or music on the marathon course before the junction of the 2 courses.

Mark the miles - 3,5,7,9,11. Or something similar. Every mile being marked is too much Don't tease the locals with a view of Higgins street, then twist us around the U Neighborhood for another 2 miles

Maybe a 5 am start if the weather is hot.

Maybe a bit clearer at the end but overall fabulous job!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Maybe a few more bathrooms early in the marathon after the start. Instead of 3 have 5 or 6.

Maybe add a race splits text to phone option?

Maybe add some signs on where to go after the race (beer garden, massage area, photo area). We just happened to wonder down there.

Maybe an area for those wanted to take pictures of the runners. My sister wanted to get a picture and the race officials were blocking several views. When asked to take one step aside people were reluctant to ask him to step aside.

Maybe have the ending ceremony at Caras Park. It was a little crazy there on Main St.

Maybe have the walks the day before...I realize this may not be possible..due to the closing of streets..etc. I do think it would help though.

maybe having live music and beer garden or something afterwards would have kept us and more people around longer.

Maybe just some more water at the finish line. Have it in multiple locations so people are not always going back to the same crowded place.

Maybe make sure that fireworks are appropriate and okay with surrounding residents at 5:00 am, haha. Good job on the race you guys....it was a blast!

Maybe other shuttle locations, change up the route a little.

Maybe some bands?

maybe some music stationed along the way by local bands/groups/individuals

Maybe some on course entertainment?

Maybe start the buses a little earlier now that it has grown so much.

Maybe start the walkers after the the majority of the full marathon participants have reached the halfway point?

Overall wonderful event, super fun. Thanks again!

Maybe the run/ walkers would have a separate time or be in front or in back of the runners. They would run up in front of me and then stop right in front of me again.

Maybe you could put the color of the tech shirt up for a vote amongst last year's participants? That would be kind of fun (and I would bitch less about the color).

Might be nice to have more of the course along the river to truly be able to take in the beautiful scenery of the area.

Mile clocks less cones and pot holes fixed Cones should have a orange strip o five feet so a runner in front of you does not hide them.

Mix up the course; less suburbs and pavement

Mmmm... I wanted to throw my banana peel away at the start of the half marathon and could not find a garbage can anywhere?

More aid stations with gels are needed.

More aid stations with orange slices. More careful post-race photos. Faster posting of photos to a website.

Overall, it was pretty great.

More along river

More bananas/fruit at end. Who wants pasta salad?

more bathrooms

More bathrooms

more bathrooms along the route

More bathrooms at the start if possible.

more bathrooms.

More business involvement - post-race, we were unable to find things to do - maybe a post-race concert?

More cliff stations

more concessions / restrooms / and the spacing between the miles for these things was too far

More cotton logowear. I'd like to buy a cotton t-shirt at the expo. I bet you'd sell a lot of them.
more cowbell!

More entertainment along the course. Bloomsday has bands and singers at every mile. Missoula absolutely has enough young talented people that would gladly volunteer to provide musical entertainment along the course route.

more flattering shirt color?

More food and vendors both for the expo and after the race.

More food at finish, otherwise excellent race!

More food choices at Expo during packet pick-up

more food choices at expo packet pick-up

more food options at the end

more free beer

More free beer!!! ;)

More freebies for the finishers!

More frequent aid stations. It got hot this year, so having the AS roughly every 2 miles was a bit far, especially after about the halfway point. I would have liked to have been given a bottle of water when I finished. These are tiny things though, and did not diminish my enjoyment of the race.

More frequent port-a-potty stops.

More gel stations

More gel stations, maybe some salt/electrolyte supplements.

More gel stations. If I hadn't packed them with me, I would have been hurting. Was worried for other runners even if it was their responsibility to plan. Some may not know that being out there for 3+ hours means you need to fuel the tank. :o)

More gels available throughout the entire race, to all the runners.

More gels for marathoners!

More gels handed out

More Gu and gummy bear aid stations.

More hydration at the end of the race.

More live music on the course

More music

More music

More music please.

More nearby parking

More of a concern than an improvement? I worry that, as the race gets bigger, you may have to limit registration. I hope this doesn't mean that beginning or intermediate runners and/or walkers will be shut out. The accessibility, and the wide variety of ages and abilities of the participants, is a big part of what makes the race so special.

More of an artistic design on the T shirt.

More organized gathering before the main day so we can meet fellow runners from other places. Like pizza parties with contests, or give-a-ways; free seminars on running, etc.

More organized music along the route and better system for picking up the bags. I would rather have the coupons and free items in the bag not the virtual bag as i do not have access to a printer.

More outhouses at intermediate checkpoints. Wider start gate if possible.

more people to help on the street with loading of the buses

more pics

More pins in race bag to fasten sticker to bag. More hotels with transportation to and from race.

More porta potties! :)

More porta potties at the starting line

more porta potties with better organization. better traffic and pedestrian control on both ends.

more porta potty's

More portable toilets in the first half of race

More portapotties

More porta-potties

More port-a-potties

More porta-potties & they should segregate walkers in the 5k--the start was painful (I did the 1/2 marathon too and it was a better start with walkers separate). I'd also like a 10K so I could do a triple crown 5K, 10K, & half. Thanks for a great event!

More porta-potties pre-race and more at the aid stations. I also wish you'd start the 5K walkers separately from the 5K runners. I ran with a jogger stroller and the walkers were rude and surly about making way even when I gave them plenty of polite warning that I was coming up on them. I also think you should ban headphones. Several people ran into me because they couldn't hear me. It thought it was particularly unsafe since we were on roads for the marathon.

more portapotties, move race to June

More port-a-potties. I also thought it would be better to do the race in late June as opposed to early July...temperature-wise.

More portipotties during the race.

more porto potties on the trail...they slow down the old grey mares outrunning me.

More porto-o-johns at start; further stress to half marathoners to not block road

More post-race food/beverage options.

More potties at the first aid station. I had to wait in line 5 whole minutes :)

More pottys along the route even between aid stations.

More reliable sound system.

More restrooms at start of half

More restrooms at the early aid stations.

More restrooms at the popular cheering spots. Have the course open longer.

more restrooms at the relay exchanges

More restrooms in the first few miles :)

More restrooms on the course.

more restrooms per station

More river for half marathon

More runner energy goo stations. There was supposed to be two station but only saw one and it was at the very end.

More rural miles in half marathon, even if it means some hills!

More schwag. I think the option of a pre-race pasta dinner would be great. Gels/fruit/whatever at at least one more aid station. More food post-race.

More shuttles from the hotels to the bus pick up area would be nice. Consider a way to have a pasta feed, possibly with some of the local restaurants/caterers taking part.

More signage at the finish that there are more things elsewhere, if there are still going to be massages etc downstairs.

More substantial food after: burritos etc. More music/entertainment at end.

more than one check pt. only received a finish time. would like to know split time as well.

More toilets!

more trash cans to put your paper cups into

More variety of food at the end. Try to redesign the recovery area to avoid the line to get the food. I understand the need for shade for volunteers. Perhaps add another tent with food and liquid?

More Venders and acricities pre race /expo

More vendors with running gear.

More vendors. Better signage or direction for packet pickup.

More. Endors at the expo and food vendors at Caras Park after the race. How about a big pre-race party at Ten Spoon winery!

Move marathon to Saturday, move shorter races to Sunday.

Move port-o-lets father form the half mara start so crowd can form better lines.

Move the expo/packet pickup to a larger venue.

Move up the start time; reduce the cost

Music along the way would be great. Maybe in a few locations.

music at the finish, but i suppose that would have interfered with awards ceremony.

Music was great should have more along the course

Music was too loud

My bus ran just a little late, so I missed the 5am start time. I almost had to wait until 6am to start (which honestly would have killed me because I'm a slow Galloway runner) but Anders was at the start and let us start 10 minutes late and that literally saved my bacon! If there was a way to do a staggered walker start, that would be great, but honestly, I just get to the buses earlier next year. I think it would be AWESOME if one of the volunteer coordinators (maybe I'll even volunteer for this) could help gather some local talent to provide more entertainment along the way, although the scenery was great (the two burros were my favorite), too. It would be great for some local bands to showcase themselves, use MCT's Next Step Prep kids to sing along the way, stuff like that. The people putting out sprinklers were fantastic and there were fans giving lots of encouragement, water, ICE, otter pops (that was my family), gummy bears and BEER?! (I missed that stop..darnit!), but music and other entertainment would be great to organize. I'm already thinking of people for it :)

My group of women do at least 2 half marathons a year. We pick them based on location, you did a great job. Be careful not to get too big, the size was very manageable and enjoyable. Your people are wonderful!

My legs not to cramp up.....:-) Maybe cheaper massage. Would of maybe had one if it were not more than a dollar a min.

My only suggestion would be a slight tweak to the course. The leg of the course that goes from Bonner Park down to South Avenue and then back was my least favorite part of the event. When that close to completion I didn't like running away from the finish line. Not a big deal really - it certainly wouldn't prevent me from participating again.

N/a

N/A

N/A

n/a

N/A

N/A

n/a

n/a

n/a

n/a

n/a

N/A

n/a

N/A

N/a

N/A, it gets better every year!

na

NA

NA

nada

naked girls

Need MORE bathrooms at the start of the full marathon. I heard several complaints about people having to start without a prerace bathroom break and it set their race back. Need more bananas along the full marathon course to prevent the inevitable cramping that comes with a summer marathon. Maybe every six miles.

No children under the age of 12 or so, they had their own race, the distance, the weather and I saw a couple of participants struggle and that could not have been a joy for them or the adult they were with.

No suggestions - Great people make for a great event and Missoula has a lot of great people.

No suggestions.

No, I have enjoyed it the last two years that I have participated.

None

None

none

None

none

None

None

None

None

none

None

None

None

None

None

none

None

None

None

none

None

None

None

None

none

none

none

None

none

None

None :)

None at this time.

None for the 1/2 and full marathon, just the kids. Could use more than one printer when printing free photos. Activities and finish line to congested for that many people.

None for you but for me, I have to train for a 2 mile long hill

none good race

None I can think of.

None I was impressed.

None really.

None really...

None that I can think of.

None!

None!

None! Perfect race!

None! Great race!

NONE!! YOU GUYS ARE AWESOME. couldn't ask for a better!!

None, everything is wonderful

None, i think it is great ;)

None, I truly appreciate the efforts of many, many volunteers.

None, really; it was a great experience.

None.

None.

None.

None.

None.

None.

None.

None.
none.
None.
None.
None.

None. Trust me, you're doing great & I really appreciated it. A great experience! Thank you.
None. All went well.

None. I've ran over 50 half marathons and this one would rank in the top 5 for organization, t-shirt and medal.

None. I actually came to the Marathon by myself this year. Yep, I drove 4 hours each way because your marathon is really the good. Thank you for all your hard work. You get an A+ from me!!

none. It was great.

None. It was wonderfuk

none...ready to go again

nope

nope

Nope. This race and the whole race weekend was fantastic.

Not a one! In fact, when I was riding the bus to the starting line I was listening to a man's conversation. He was stating how he was from Missouri (maybe) and how he has ran in several marathons. However, he continued to state his amazement of how well the Missoula Marathon was ran. He said it was one of the best he had ever seen, and how you expect that in a place like New York not Missoula Montana! I love hearing how complimentary he was! Great job to all of you who helped and ran the marathon! :)

Not a thing. This is my favorite event and it's because of the amazing organization. Keep up the good work!!

Not much. Encourage cars to stay away from the course on race day, and perhaps bigger or better signs at the starting line for gear check, walkers, etc.

Not so many 'mist' stations. I didn't like having to run around someone's mist station because I didn't want to get soaking wet. I ran with music and didn't want my iTouch to get wet and felt that I had to 'weave' in and out of the road sometimes to avoid water.

Not sure if it's possible to bump it up to the end of June or whenever it might be a bit cooler.... Whatever, I'll do it anyway. :)

Not trying to bitch. But the 1/2 point was not at the half. Saw the mark on the road. was running consistent pace and that mark was right with it. then 1:30 later I hit the "half" mat. that correct?

nothing

Nothing

Nothing

nothing

Nothing

nothing

Nothing

nothing

Nothing

Nothing - it was amazing!!
NOTHING - KEEP DOING WHAT YOU ARE DOING!!
Nothing - keep up the great work!
Nothing at this time
Nothing comes to mind. Its very organized.
Nothing comes to mind...
Nothing how to get my family to come with me!! Lol!! Loved it!!
Nothing I can think of at the moment...
Nothing I can think of right now.
Nothing I can think of. You did a great job. Way to go folks!
Nothing it continues to be fantastic.
Nothing it was my first time and I loved it, I will be back for more!
Nothing it was so GREAT!
Nothing! (well maybe a little cooler weather LOL!!)

Nothing! Just keep doing what your doing - pefect event. Thanks for making our day special.
Nothing, great marathon!!!
nothing, it's a great race
Nothing. I can see why many people view this as the best marathon in the United States.
Nothing. Great job, keep it up!
Nothing....this was fantastic!
Numbers and pins available for gear bags. Other than that this is an amazing race! Beautiful course and so well organized! You do a great job with this race!

On awards, the half marathon results were not spread out. Race protocol is that overall winners 1-3 are pulled from age group awards, so awards are moved down the line to non-overall winners. More importantly, is the overall masters do not receive overall also. In the half, Mike Bresson won a second overall gift certificate, and a first overall masters certificate, but those are two different races. He also received the first place age group award. His correct award is first place overall masters, and other result adjusted up accordingly. Very nice race you guys did.

On the full marathon there was not a quick easy way of filling my handheld water bottle.

One more station ealier on in the 1/2 with Gels. That seemed a little late. Glad i carried my own snacks/ blocks.
One of the gals I was running with needed more water. She will probably bring her own next time, but a few more water stops would have helped her quite a bit.
One small complaint/suggestion.. the stickers that we were given to identify our bags did not stick to the bags. That's all!

Only one minor observation...there was a bit of confusion about the 0500 start time. I heard conflicting stories about needing to be a ?walker" vs a "runner" to start at that time; I would have liked to started at 0500 just because I am a "slow" runner and like to have food/drinks at the end of the marathon vs just seeing everything being put away. Would offer that the expectations of who can start "earlier" be clearly communicated to avoid confusion for future events.

Optional recreational group activities at discount. Such as rafting at a discount. Way to get together with other marathoners

Optional shirt for price reduction.

oranges at more aid stations

Other races allow pace groups to run from chip time instead of gun time, so they can line up farther back and let lots of people join them. Please do that, and/or widen the chute or make it more open so we can more easily join our pace group.

other than having the handcyclists on a different route....no improvements needed!!!

Other than printing out the top results somewhere right away, I would say maybe you could add a lane for half marathoners and one for the marathoners. It was really hard to keep a steady pace in the last miles - we had to dodge around many who were walking 3 side by side. One gal was waving her arms around and hit me as I went by (she apologized - no biggie). But we did waste a lot of energy working thru the crowds... and at the point I wasn't so good on my feet!

Our hotel, Hampton Inn, didn't seem to realize the number of people that would be departing early in the morning for the marathon.

Outside of what I mentioned in the previous block, I don't know if there's anything the race organizers can do to alleviate this problem, but there were a couple of instances of road rage along the course, specifically one that happened right in front of me on Big Flat Road around Mile 14, when a lady in an SUV tried to run my wife off the road. I certainly appreciated the Montana Highway Patrol trying to keep tabs on runner safety, but there's only so much they can do. I just wish I could have gotten her license plate number so I could have reported her.

Over all it was a very nice race. I think if the route was more direct at the end could make it even better.

Overall a good race.

Overall, it was a good race not too many complaints.

Pace groups were very close together, maybe spread out pacers a bit more

Pacers for sure

Pacers who stay close to the time they are pacing for.. And I don't mean just at the finish. Everything else was AMAZING. I will definitely be back next year.

Packet pick up on Friday evening at the beer run A group hike to the M on Saturday.

Packet pick-up may need to start on Friday night as the number of participants grows.

Parking at start and finish, more involvement of family if attending, better sound system for announcing and speaker at start, option for women runners to get a men's shirt.

Parking changes - or location changes for sites?

pasta dinner more vendors more advertisement of post race activities

Perhaps a little more protein in post-race food, posting registrants on web site before race (so we know which friends are racing, our competition, etc., as is done in most triathlons)

Perhaps address the above concerns?

Perhaps advise local hotels that runners need breakfast in the am and coordinate that and the shuttles TO the bus better. I think it would be nice to have an on line training plan suggestion. Price is a bit steep.

Perhaps have a better variety of concessions available after the race... Like fruits and salads, breads, etc. maybe having more really local places, like the brewery.

Perhaps have more stations with Gel packs if possible. The ending is really cool so I would leave that as is, but it would be cool to run along river or by the university of Montana prior to finishing on Higgins bridge.

Perhaps move into late June for a chance at some cooler weather?

Perhaps order additional portable toilets for next years race.

Picking up registration packets was a little confusing also. I would like to see how I placed compared to other women my age who ran.

Place bathrooms more frequently throughout the race and have more bathrooms at the start, the lines for the bathrooms were very long at the start line.

Please add more porta potties at the first few stations of the half marathon! It seemed as though there were enough bathrooms further along the route after runners were in their groove and less nervous...however, it was a little frustrating to have to wait for a good 5 minutes at the first station on the route.

Please ask mother nature to turn down the heat next year.

Please bring back water coolers to fill your own water bottle. Would like the aid stations to be more "green"

Please have cold bottled water available, even for the later finishers. Thanks!

Please have separated lines on Higgins St. Bridge, one for marathoners and Half-marathoners, another for walkers and relay teams. Way took many marathoners trying to dodge around the skipping, hopping, walking , not concerned with time participants. That would be so appreciated!

Please see above.

Please see above.

Pleased with everything about the marathon

Porta potties at each aid station!

Possibly a few more water stops in the earlier parts of the race.

possibly more food vendors at Caras park. Spectators did not have much for food or beverage to purchase.

Possibly more portable potties at the start and more buses during peak time.

Post results sooner online

Potato chips or some other salty treat at the end would be great

Powerbar gel shots at every station

Pre-race pasta dinner would be great. Ciao Mambo would be a great site or caterer.

Pretty darn perfect as is!

Pretty perfect already.

Previous paragraph!V

Prior to the race, spread out the pacers so that adequate space is allowed for people to be near the proper pacer for their goal.

Prioritizing bags/shirts for people who pre-registered and/or communicated about needing late pickup. Some way to provide spectator parking at start of race (perhaps one hour limit or special passes to use the gyms lot). More spectator-oriented festivities at Caras Park. It was great to have all the racer support down there but my guests would have enjoyed seeing more Missoula info/organizations.

Protein shakes and/or cold chocolate milk at the finish! Other than that, it was a great event!

Provide better running packets. The river bank run packet included many coupons for local Missoula businesses

Provide possible energy jelly beans or something along those lines to be available along with the gel packs.

Provide results faster and in a variety of locations. Also make race results available online ASAP

Purely selfish on my part, but as a walker I wish there was some way I could gauge my performance against other walkers. Yeah, I know it's me against the clock, but it doesn't keep me from wanting to beat the pants off all the other walkers.

Put a least 1 page of the important information in the race packet, do not assume people are going to have access to the internet or a smart phone during the pick up or on race day. If you are using the same "timing chip" better configure and have more computers set up for verifying information so people do not have to stand in line. Also be specific about what information needs to be verified as there was a lot of time wasted with questions about some blocks that were intentionally left blank. Having to come to a complete stop to cut the chip immediately after crossing the finish line is also a hassell when one wants to keep walking and moving. The signage and bus staging could be better. A few more bathrooms at the first few stations of the 1/2 marathon would help as there are always lines of runners (many women) waiting -- lots of guys just head to the weeds which the neighbors probably don't appreciate.

Put chip readers on the outside of corners on Kona and 7th to keep runners on the right side of the road. Strongly suggest the single earbud concept.

Put it in the Spokane Race Rag and have a Bloomsday booth to sign people up.

put port-a-pots 1/4 mile away from the water/sports drink stop. I didn't need the bathroom stop until after I drank sports drink.

Put timing devises at each mile, add alert messaging at each 5K point VS. just the half and finish. Change the end to the Missoula Football Stadium, give everyone a football as they enter the stadium to carry to the finish line, let the spectators sit in the stands and open the concessions. Have the band play the Missoula Fight Song. Have more of the race in town, less in the country. Start the race at 5AM if the forcast is for hot weather.

Read above.

Really can't think of any - you're the pros and you did a fabulous job.

Recycling bins!!!! The news said that there were 5000 bottles of water/sports drink on hand for the finishers - I only ran across one recycling bin for my plastic bottle. If there were more, they were not very visible. For as environmentally conscious as Missoula is, it surprises me that recycling at this event is not more of a focus.

Registration pickup at a more conducive location for traffic and parking

Registration times and locations. As we had to travel on Saturday, the events were closed. The alternate location was not really knowledgeable and they didn't have supplies.

Remind the ultra marathoners to pass on the left of the slower people and say something like, "On your left!" Due to the cheering people on the route, slower people cannot hear racers coming up behind them! We nearly had a wreck with someone who passed on the right - we didn't know he was there until he nearly collided with us.

Room rates, holding rooms closer to finish?

Run it in early June.

salty snack at at least one aid station later in the race

Same as above.

Same as above...start earlier should not be problem for full marathoner. It will be safer if weather may cause problem later...and a whole rest of the day to enjoy your town!!! Just like Honolulu marathon!

say that the walker and runners start at the same time

SAYING THANKYOU TO THE COMMUNITY, STAFF AND PARTICIPANTS LOUDER THAN BEFORE!!!

See above
See above
see above
See above
See above

See above - wider starting chute. There was room to the side of the chute so if you had wider mats it should be fairly easy to accomplish a wider start line. This was a common complaint amongst everyone standing nearby to me at the start - in fact this was the only complaint I heard during the whole event.

see above question...

See above response

See above suggestion

see above under what I did not like.

See above!

See above, but also an official post-race party location for the evening is sometimes nice.

see above.

See above.

See above.

See above.

See above.

See above.

See above.

See above.

see above.

See above.

see above.

See above.

See above.

See above. Also, if it was on a Saturday morning, we would have had more fun going out on the town Saturday night. We gave it our best shot, but Sunday night was dead! :-{

See above. Otherwise excellent experience and wouldn't change a thing!

See above. Otherwise, it's really a wonderfully executed and planned event.

SEE ABOVE. THE TIMING WAS MESSED UP AT THE END. THE WEB SITE FOR THE FINISHING RESULTS HAS TOO MUCH ON IT AND MY COMPUTER ANTI VIRUS SOFTWARE HATES IT... IT WAS TRULY GREAT.

See above. Additionally the start line was REALLY tight. I was trying to run with the 3:20 group and couldn't even make it up to the 3:50 group.

see above. everything was great though - one of the best events i have ever run in.

See above. Missed the Saturday night booths not being open. :(

See above. Other than that - loved the race!

See note above. . Also, there are a lot of spectators along the route (for the half). That is very encouraging and makes the race nicer. It would be great if the number of spectators could be increased along the route. Also, I would have to assume that the full marathon has long stretches without spectators at all (which road/land conditions would prohibit or limit). But if there was a way to increase this, it would increase the energy of the event.

See previous question - increase runner support, especially in first half

Segregate goal pace times better for half marathon and make it clear Improve your sound system at start of race (kept cutting out)

serve bananas and oranges after mile 15+

Set off the fireworks earlier. Waiting until the half marathon started was a nice send off but then the participants are moving past the fireworks site and cannot enjoy the fireworks (this also happened last year at the start of the full marathon). When the fireworks start at the same time as the event people start moving, the area is soon behind the participants sightline and most of the participants miss the fireworks show. At the food court being under the tent in the shade was nice but it was also congested and noisy.

Shoot the fireworks off in front of the starting line so we can see them as we head out on the half marathon course - although the walkers probably got a good view!

should have a more 'level' registration fee--initially higher, maybe, and not so penalizing for last-minute registration.

Should put the relay pass offs 200 yards or so before or after the aid stations.

Since you can't do anything about the heat, I have no suggestions!

Slightly cheaper registration fees.

solid food at at least one aid station (ie. pieces of energy bars or banana or something that wasn't sugary)

some city street are in need of resurfacing

Some kind of magic to keep my legs from getting so dang tired in the last few miles!

Some link to events going on that weekend that don't relate to the marathon. (i.e. farmers market, and Art Walk were two amazing things I wish I'd known about ahead of time) Providing times for racers who are registered as walkers. I normally don't sign up for any race that doesn't have a separate walking division.

Some of the cones snuck up on the runners, maybe if they were a little taller or had a flag on them it would help.

Some of us were sitting down at the park, enjoying our free beer, it would be cool if we could hear the speaker calling out the finishers a little better -- video would even be cooler.

Some races feature a long urinal latrine to take the pressure off the porta potties. Seemed like a lot of people waiting in line at the half marathon. Weather has been good for a few years but I would not mind starting 1/2 hour earlier when it is cooler. I would rather get my time on the main level rather than having to walk down to the Expo. Perhaps have two time print out locations. Every year some people wear their numbers on their back. Add a blurb that the race has photos available and announcers that will announce your arrival if your number is on the front. It was not clear which side the chip was "up" Two of us ran and we both thought there was a right side and wrong side and we did not agree.

Some trail running-pleasant scenery-

Somehow have more of the course along wooded areas vs. through neighborhoods

Someone from the Missoula Marathon need to nominate the medal for medal of the year contest with the Marathon&Beyond Magazine. I can't as a runner it has to come from the directors or the chairman of the Missoula Marathon. Go for it.

Someone needs to let finishers know to go take their picture before going to eat.

Someone needs to point finishers to the picture area before they go eat.

Sports drink at the finish line was a bit strange-tasting. I seem to recall that something from Honest Tea was an option last year and liked that a bit more.

Spread out the aid stations with Gu/Clif products, there were none for 11 miles and then 2 close together. More festivities afterwards.

Staff at the finish to help direct runners to the available services.

Stage the starting area earlier (call the runners to the area) Urge walkers to lineup in the back of the queue. Maybe set up pace corrals, even if they are voluntary, or do a two-wave start to disperse the crowd on the narrow first section of the course.

Stagger the start so first few miles are not quite so crowded.

staggered start for ANYONE who is walking, thank you!

Start at 7 AM

Start doing additional training classes for the regular running class and run/walk/run on Saturdays instead of just on Sundays for those of us (quite a few people) that go to church on Sunday. Thanks!

Start even earlier. Possibly 0530.

Start the half marathon 30 minutes later.

Start the race in waves instead of all at once.

stay away from orange, yellow, brown, and pukey green shirt colors...red, blues, greens, even white are better stay small

Sticky numbers for bags maybe should be changed.

Still need walkers to start towards the back.

stop bringing jeff gallows to town and put that money towards other things. lower price would be rad.

Suggest line up points at start of half based on anticipated pace.

Suggest to let the bicycle participants start earlier than the runners to allow them time on the course and not have to ride around us.

Suggestions for improvement (this will be short!): 1) Be sure to have the sticky numbers for the gear bags in the bags when we pick them up. 2) It would be great to see the lists of results printed out in a central location. 3) It was difficult to hear the announcer if you were sitting in the 'audience area' under the little tents. 4) Perhaps a bit wider area for the starting chute? 5) The only reason I didn't give the course 5 stars is simply because I didn't much care for running the roundabouts, but I wouldn't let it stop me from running this marathon again. 6) Re-do the course video in much higher quality in order to do justice to the beautiful course.

Sure wish there was a way to have some shady areas for spectators along finish block of Higgins, though it probably isn't realistic. It would be WONDERFUL to have an area for the race printouts on top of the bridge instead of having to tackle those steps to go down and get it. I was hurting so badly I couldn't even retrieve mine because of those dang steps.

Teach the people that run the full marathon they are not the only people in the race!!!! I am writing an article to see if they will print it in the missoulian !!!!!

Tell people how to get back across the river. While the finish area in front of the Wilma is dramatic, it's hard to work your way back across the river on Higgins. If you could give them a couple alternative routes in might reduce congestion between spectators and finishers.

Tell racers to not go behind aid station tables to avoid throwing garbage in water barrels.

thank you for doing such a great job please keep them going my suggestion is keep it going

Thanks for a wonderful race. Keep up the great work!

That's tough. It was about a 9.7 out of 10 for me. Most suggestions are just trivial. I prefer the bib-RFID over the zip tie the chip to my shoe, but that's just my thing. If you could work with the minor league baseball team to have them in town Friday before the race, that'd be great!

the corral system you had set up at the end of the race was a little frustrating but understandable.

The director of the race should not be the community member with the most vested financial interest in the race. To own the only running store in town and direct the biggest event in Missoula creates too much conflict of interest, something that would not be allowed in many situations. It is in his best interest to get as many people in the race -- ie marathon and half marathon walkers -- in order to increase his sales revenue. These are the people most likely to get hurt and/or have a serious problem in the heat. If the race were to have really hot conditions one year, there are going to be lots of people who suffer b/c they shouldn't be doing the race in the first place. The race needs to have a director who has the best interest of runners in mind, not a director who is trying to line his pockets with sales revenue for running shoes by increasing the number of walkers and slow runners in the race.

The downhill start wasn't my favorite

The event weekend from start to finish was amazing, just a wonderful event for the community. Seems like the expo might need a little more room in the future if the race keeps growing. But overall, it was excellent!

The expo and beer stands would be nice to have after the running of the race. Perhaps having the race Saturday morning or night and events after? We didn't participate in anything other than the run due to wanting to stay hydrated and rested before.

The expo was a little disappointing this year, I'd love to see more clothing vendors next year.

The fireworks are great but I'd imagine the people who live near the starting lines don't really appreciate them - maybe the non-booming kind would be more appropriate?

The fireworks at the beginning were a nice touch move them a little in front of the start so the runners can see them.

The food tents were organized much better in past years with access to munchies on both Higgins and Front streets.

The free pictures are a great touch. I totally understand why the photo vendor has the pictures arranged by time, but you might suggest that they label the approximate mile marker for each of the photo locations so that people can more easily find their photos. Not being from the area (and probably because I have a terrible memory :)) I didn't really have an idea of where "Park" or "Tunnel" was, for example.

The garbage cans near and around the finish and in the awards area were stuffed. Garbage everywhere. Perhaps more garbage cans near the finish. Felt bad leaving the trash on top of the leaning tower of muck! Speed up the awards ceremony.

The gear bag labels did not adhere to the bag, I wrapped mine around the straps.

The gels, oranges, and gummy bears should be at different water stations as it's hard to hold it all in your hands!

The guy playing the grand piano in the Tux should play some ragtime Beatles!

The half marathon needs more mileage along Blue Mtn Rd, and less through city streets. Recommend removing most city street offsets (i.e., straighten out course) and starting the full marathon further out and starting the half marathon at Kona Ranch Road. If that is not logistically practical then consider routing through other city streets such as Fort Missoula.

The half marathon start was difficult to get through as there were no pace groups. I might have run a couple minutes faster if I didn't have to wait to get past the walkers and 2:30 runners first.

The last few miles of the half-marathon course were a not as beautiful to run through as the beginning.

The Missoula marathon is great as is and I can't think of anything to improve it.

The more vendors the merrier.

The number stickers for the Race Bags

The only improvement I can suggest is to put little signs on the windows of the bus - one side for marathon and the other side for half-marathon. This way the bus driver could switch it for which race he/she was driving to.

The only suggestion I have is that you provide the gels maybe at mile 6 or 7 for the half marathon, not 9 or 10 :-)

The only suggestion I would have is to "fill in" some potholes in the streets. When the marathon entered the residential area in Missoula, some of the potholes (especially at the corners) became dangerous. Runners are so exhausted at that point in the race that they don't see them. I would think a simple bag of sand poured into the worse spots would alleviate that hazard. Other than that, no other suggestions. You guys put on an awesome marathon.

The only suggestion would be to have everything available to the runners who have pre-registered at pick-up time.

the only thing I can think of is possibly more porta-potties at the beginning of the full marathon course (the lines were pretty long)

The only thing I can think of is the shirt styles. As a woman who is not tiny, I find myself not feeling comfortable in the women's style shirts which tend to be more form fitting. I almost wish I could order a man's shirt or a unisex shirt that may not be as form fitting. I have all these great shirts that fit me as far as the size goes, but I do not wear because of the form fit. The first year I ran the half-marathon was in 2009 and the shirt was perfect, but I think it was more of a unisex style. I still use that shirt today, in fact I ran in it on July 8th. Not sure if this is something you can change, it's just my thoughts. The shirt style will not prevent me from running again next year. Cannot wait for July 14, 2013! Thanks for a great race!!

The only thing I would have preferred is chocolate milk at the finish line, but that's because it's my personal postrace necessity.

The only thing I would possibly suggest as the starting lines are fairly tight that small corralls be set up for runners based upon expected finish time.

The only thing I would suggest would be a few more water stations during the early miles of the full marathon.

The only thing that I can think of as an improvement would be for you organizers to have/place a sign about 0.5 miles from the Higgins Bridge announcing "Half mile remaining." Runners can get confused between the marathon markers and the half marathon markers, and the last 1-2 miles were not - in my opinion - marked well. All runners would benefit from just one sign - big - announcing "HALF MILE REMAINING"

The only thing would be different designs for the 5k and Marathon medals. They look too much alike.

The people of Missoula put on a great run. It was very cool to see all the people sitting outside watching and cheering. It was also very refreshing to have so many sprinklers.

The people who took my finishers foto didn't tell me it was actually being printed on site, so I missed out on that. No big deal, but at the end of the race, we're spent - have the volunteers tell us where to go pick up the hard copy. Other than that, it was a perfect day.

The photographer took our photo w our eyes shut and we waited an hour in line for a photo we can't use.

The primary reason I would not run again is because I don't repeat events and am trying to get 50 states.

The race etiquette from above and also the start of the half was chaotic-I was in the bathroom when the race started and I did not know when to start=there was a big group of people standing around and it was unclear-found out later, they were the walkers.

The runner's bags need to be improved. There is no drawstring clasp on them so you couldn't pull/tighten them shut. It's nerve wracking to put your bag in a big box knowing that it may open.

The shirts for sale for the Half. I really wanted to purchase a shirt for the Half, but they all say Marathon and since I wasn't running it, I didn't buy it. One nice women's shirt for sale with Half (or even both races) on it would be nice.

The start for the half marathon was not organized into pacing times. The street was crowded and for the first mile we were running past people walking who had lined up far in front of us. It is frustrating trying to run your pace when you have to dodge people walking. There could've been a few poles held high with average mile times on them so that people could line up accordingly.

The suggestion above. Also - not marathon related, but the italian restaurants were so packed that we had to wait a long time to eat. (Pasta is recommended for runners the night before the race).

The water at the end of the race was HOT.

There are more convenient timing chips available than the ones used in this year's race, like those on the back of the race numbers.

there are new chips that are part of the bid instead of the shoe tag

There could be more music/bands/entertainment along the course.

There could have been more restrooms at the start for the half marathon. I was able to use them when first getting off the bus, but prior to the race start, they were too crowded.

There is nothing I can think of that the organizers of this event haven't already thought of. Again, just a blazing good time, so very impressive and for sure something I intend to do again.

There needs to be a gel and/or orange station much earlier than it was on the course, or a couple of stations handing out energy gels. There was only 1 and it was near the end of the half marathon.

There seemed to be volunteers and signs every step of the way except for just after the finish line. Something as simple as a big bold sign saying FOOD AND EXIT THIS WAY with an arrow would be splendid. Great job otherwise!

There should be a separate shoot on the last street for the marathon and half so it is not so congested.

There should have been more porta potties at the start area. It would have also been nice to have a digital clock at some of the mile markers along the course. I think the race should be moved to end of June when it's a little cooler. 60's for the start of a marathon is a tad warm and that's coming from someone who lives in Texas.

There was a lot of great info on facebook. Not being a facebook user, it took awhile for me to find this info until I realized it was on facebook. Links to the info from the webpage would be helpful.

Think it is all going very well.

This is a minor suggestion, and I don't know how it could be pulled off, but it would be nice if small hand towels could be available at the finish to wipe sweat away while runners are cooling down / stretching / eating under the tent.

This is my fourth Missoula Marathon. Each year the Marathon shirts have had sleeves. 2009 and 2012 shirts were light weight and would be perfect if, they were light in color and sleeveless. I would also like to see a 5:30 pacer.

This one is tough, but I'll give it a shot. Organizers and the city might consider leaving a wider walkway open on the west side of the Higgins street bridge. Currently, because of the way the finishing / food area dumps out onto Front St on the west of Higgins, there's no easy way to cross over to the east side of the street. Despite the sidewalk in front of the Wilma and the bridge walkway being crowded and essentially clogged by 7:45 am, I witnessed several finishers/young parents with strollers trying to force their way onto the walkway to cross the bridge. There is literally no way they can fit, but evidently they don't see another way to get over the bridge. They could have doubled back a block or two north, but that choice isn't obvious from a vantage point in front of the Wilma, in the middle of a large crowd. It struck me as a safety issue, with people having to climb partway up the rail as strollers and more people tried to squeeze through. Perhaps a few feet of the street outside the railing could be barricaded off, allowing more room for pedestrians. Yes, it could narrow the finishing stretch for runners a bit, but I've seen narrower finishing chutes. As a runner, I've never felt as though it is too confined.

This really doesn't have much to do with the Marathon and more to do with the weather. Since this is a summer Marathon your start time of 6am is great, since I'm an Oregon boy my training was generally in temps under 60 degrees (it didn't get very hot around Portland until the 4th of July). For me personally the temperature this year was fine at the start, but as the race progressed it got a little warm for me and I had to adjust my pace down a bit. The temperatures in the summers seem to be getting hotter, if it was much more than this I would really have to think seriously about committing myself again to the race, even though I really enjoy it. But you know a 5am start time would be fine with me if that's the case.

This was an amazing event, great job!

This was my 14th marathon, and so far it is my favorite. Keep up the good work.

This was my 3rd consecutive time running and I found this year to be at least "spectacular" in terms of atmosphere, community involvement, etc.

This was my first 1/2 marathon and I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. I'll gladly participate in more races since my experience with this one was so positive.

This was my first half marathon and I could not think of one thing that could use improvement. I love the course and all of the support participants received from the community. Thanks to this race I will be back again next year!

Thought everything ran very smoothly! I am a former convention/event planner and I don't have any suggestions. GREAT JOB!

thought everything was covered

Time boards along the way

To get support, it would be cool to have a competition to see which community could get most involved--maybe have the runners vote at the end: i.e. Target Range vs. University area.

To give a couple more time split points so when there are family and friends waiting at the finish they can better gauge when you will be finishing.

Toilets and snacks

Trophies for all winning relay team members. Lower entry fee.

Try not to let it get too big!

Try to keep the cost of the race down, especially for multiple members of the same family that will participate together.

Try to stay to the published time schedule for the post race items (awards presentations). I liked having the half-marathon awards earlier than the full.

T-shirt colors - which is trivial by the way but it was the only improvement that I could think of... A dinner the night before with pasta to include GLUTEN FREE options and salad. Keep it simple!!

Turn down the heat!

Two things...1)The sound system at the start of the full marathon was not very loud. I could not hear anything the MC was saying. 2) At the aid stations with the high school football players (the Hellgate team in particular) they need to stay out of the way when handing out water. I almost hit 3 different people handing out water. They were stepping out into the course instead of just sticking their hands out with the water.

Txt messages sent to fan with time at different parts of the course.

Use a different company for photography.

V

Virtual or green gear bag was great idea, but difficult to use for those from out of town. One coupon not valid until after 7/9. 1. Send out virtual bag week prior to race so we have time to spend money with generous sponsors and make coupons valid the Friday and Saturday prior to race. 2. Better map of local events, hotels, sponsoring venues to out of towners on web months prior to race for planning.

Walkers' Division?

Was great loved it!

Was great. Loved all the staffing

Was there massage after the race? Didn't see it. Ice at the Aid stations would be great. It was a very hot run. I don't know how I would have done it without the residents shooting cold water from hoses and putting out ice for the runners. It saved me.

We have run the Portland Marathon and enjoyed the variety of "entertainment" along the route. There was a cellist, a choir, cheerleaders from a high school, boom boxes blasting Rocky music etc. It was a nice distraction. Could you possibly have an entertainment committee that could find different people to volunteer their talents along the route?

Well done!

While waiting for the start, making frequent announcements about the time remaining. I got in line for the bathroom thinking I had at least five minutes and the gun went off! Beyond that, maybe some very clear signage for those trying to drop off or pick up their bags. Perhaps setting up a couple more clocks with official race times along the route would be good, too.

Widen some of the running areas where we run just on the shoulders of the road.

wider selection of food and drinks at the finish

Wider start corral with signs for pace groups.

wider start line. better sound at start area.

Wider starting gate?

Wish I could help you but I can't imagine it being any more fun.

Wish I could offer some but really I can't. A million thanks from a very grateful participant from KY.

Wish I could offer some constructive advise, but you seem to have thought of everything.

With the increase in numbers, a staggered start at the half may be helpful.

Would have been nice to have goo/gummi bear stops earlier in half course. By the time I reached them, there was not enough time left in the race to have any effect.

Would have liked to see more availability of bathrooms at the start. I think I would rather see a pre-race dinner than a beer run mainly because we stayed at a cabin that lost power the night before the race and couldn't prepare the meal we had planned. I'm sure that doesn't happen to too many people, but a pre-race pasta dinner would have been a nice option for the night before.

Would have loved to see the actual race end in Caras Park instead of above it on the bridge. There was very limited space once we all finished and went to get our snacks. It was also difficult to get down to the park since people were all lined up along the bridge.

Would like the expo to continue onto Sunday Too nervous to shop the day before!

would like to have iced tea at the end of the race...I had already had plenty of water, but craved tea. Missed having the food coupons in the bag this year.

Would like to have more music along the route. Something like bloomsday race in Spokane where ther is a band about every half mile.

Would like to have seen options for dinner the night before the race. I saw the email on there being a focus on local restaurants and no pasta dinner. I'm alright with that. But it can be difficult for out-of-towners to find places. And also difficult if those places are overly busy due to the increased traffic. The last thing a marathoner wants to do is look for places to eat and worry about what they will be eating for the pre-race meal.

Would like to see more entertainment along the way but that will come I am sure

Would like to see more music along the route.

Would like to see start corrals for runners so that runners of faster abilities do not need to trip over runners who intend on a slower pace.

Would love a little more music along the route

Would love to have additional splits for chip timing for people tracking us but not sure if added expense would outweigh this benefit.

Would love to see more at the expo at packet pick up! Have food samples (energy bars or shot blocks, granola bars, yogurt..) Even free chapstick and stickers! The virtual race bag may seem like a nice concept, but many of the offers are only good in the Missoula area, and for the day AFTER the race. I imagine I'm not the only one not from Missoula, and goes home the day of the race.

Would really like the marathon to start at 5 am. With the marathon being a week later next year, I'm not planning on registering based solely on the possibility of even warmer temp's than this yr.

Yes - We are from way out of town so it took sometime to orient ourselves to the city. The big suprise came when my wife dropped us off at the bus in the morning. There was no one down town. The coffee shops were not open - nothing. Part of this is our fault for not researching better but all of the events I have been to there are spectators, volunteers near the finish line from the very early hours. It would have been very challenging to navigate to various mile markers not being from the area so down town is it. Plus the local businesses lost out on coffee sales etc. I would definetly have something for specators from out of town either a bus or something that will allow them not to fly solo downtown from 5 a.m. til 7 or 8

you guys actually have a great event, maybe one thing, more of the endurance gels at other water stations instead of the 2-3 you had. maybe 4-5.

You guys are doing a great job and in only the sixth year!

You guys do a great job. Can't think of any improvements since a gravel route isn't really possible without lots of hills.

You guys get it. You have perfected a race for the runners that is hard to beat. I can't think of anything you should do differently. If you could make me 10lbs thinner, younger and blond - that would be awesome. Thank you again. Love your town, event and big dipper ice cream. Rhonda Dunlap Palmer, Alaska

You guys really know what you are doing! Thanks for a great race.

You guys should try and change the course so there is not so many freaking turns the last six miles. It slows times and down and is hard on legs that have already ran that far. Maybe starting in back and have the course go through Frenchtown, then when we reach Missoula, we can take a direct route to the higgins bridge instead of turning everywhere.

You have this so dialed in that I have no suggestions. Thanks again. Lisa Poe, Darby, MT

You might want to look at the placement of the mile markers. As comments in the "Runners World" forum indicate, the halfway marker did not correspond with the 13-mile marker. (It was at least .3 miles away from the mile 13 marker.) I think the finish line was also about .1 miles too distant from the mile 26 marker, and I think some (most?) other mile markers were off as well.

You really do an outstanding job and the race gets better and better each year (as if that is even possible). I love the medals and love the race. Downfall was line for toilet at the start of half - but I got there late so it's my own fault.

You run a pretty tight ship. Thank you for making your race such a good value. Including things in the cost instead of tacking them on, makes everyone happier. (pictures, etc)

You're doing great. Thanks for a wonderful event!

#NAME?

